

Published by...
AY NEED...
ANY...
FOR SALE...
ESISTA CARP...
PECIAL OFFER...
USIN PLANO...
10's Prizes...
Show Stand...

Agreement on EEC posts after angry dispute

Mrs Margaret Thatcher intervened personally on behalf of Mr Christopher Tugendhat, one of the British European Commissioners, as the allocation of posts in the new Commission degenerated into an acrimonious, arm-twisting argument in Brussels early yesterday. Mr Tugendhat emerged with his powers intact and added responsibility.

New President in clash with Mrs Thatcher

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, Jan 8
The distribution of posts in the new European Commission was finally agreed here early today after scenes of acrimony, insults, and arm-twisting by at least one national government for which even old hands in Brussels could recall few parallels.

The outcome was not at all bad for Britain's two Commissioners, Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the former Conservative MP, who has been appointed to serve another four-year term, and Mr Ivor Richard, the former Labour MP and British Ambassador to the United Nations, a newcomer to Brussels.

Mr Tugendhat retained control of the EEC budget and the Community's financial institutions, and was also entrusted with taxation policy, previously a separate portfolio under another Commissioner.

For his part Mr Richard obtained employment and social affairs, education and vocational training policy, and responsibility for organizing the periodic "tripartite" conferences between EEC trade unions, employers and member governments.

British beef for Poland at 34p per lb

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent
British beef is to be sold to Poland at a bargain price of 34p a pound. The latest official survey of British shop prices states that "cheap" beef costing on average £1.08 a pound.

The price for Poland has been fixed by the European Commission in Brussels for 1,000 tonnes of meat from the British share of the EEC beef "mountain". It will form part of a sale of 15,000 tonnes to be included in an EEC package of cheap food to help Poland.

RAF patrol's bravery praised after bomb blast

By Stewart Tindler and Derek Barnett
A bomb wrecked part of a barracks at RAF Uxbridge, West London, last night, seconds after Servicemen had dragged away drums of petrol packed round the device. Their action prevented the blast from causing greater damage and fire.

Up to 40 Servicemen were evacuated from the building before the explosion and the only casualties were two civilians outside the station who were slightly hurt by flying glass.

Last night there were no indications of responsibility for the bomb. The Ministry of Defence said security at Service bases had recently been tightened against any attacks over the Christmas period and RAF Uxbridge had its own detachment of Ministry of Defence police.

The bomb was placed just inside the double doors of a three-storey barracks called 'Sutia' sited not far from the camp perimeter.

The explosives were placed in a blue satchel similar to RAF issue and four five-gallon plastic drums of petrol were placed round it. The drums, of a type used for liquids such as vinegar, had taps which were turned on so that petrol began to trickle out. The petrol seepage would have increased the effectiveness of the device.

But shortly after 5.30 pm a policeman on a routine patrol saw the barrels and then the satchel with wires hanging out. As the alarm was raised the policeman, the station warrant officer, and an airman carried the drums away from the satchel to a stretch of grass near by.

They had just set down the last of the drums when the bomb exploded. Later Deputy Assistant Commissioner David Povey, head of London's CID, said he had acted "with courage and they have my admiration".

The blast caused extensive damage to the ground floor of the building which is used for Servicemen in transit.

RAF Uxbridge was opened during the First World War for the Royal Flying Corps and many Servicemen were trained there between the wars.

It became an important control centre for RAF fighters during the Battle of Britain and now houses training facilities for musicians, the RAF Regiment's Queen's Colour Squadron, and Servicemen's records.

Claim denied: An anonymous telephone caller to The Sun in London yesterday claimed responsibility on behalf of the Scottish Socialist Republican League for the parcel bomb addressed to the Prime Minister and defused at a sorting office in London on Wednesday. Later, however, the league said it had had nothing to do with the bomb.

The bomb was discovered at the Howick Place sorting office in Westminster, by Mr Edward Hamilton, aged 60, a postman, who was handling parcels marked off a pile of parcels containing a bomb.

Mrs Thatcher said yesterday: "I am very grateful and pleased to see that our postmen are so vigilant."

Royal commission wants network of Crown prosecutors' departments to be established Wider stop and search powers recommended for police

By Marcel Berlins and Frances Gibb
An extension of some police powers, coupled with safeguards to protect suspects in detention and under interrogation, are proposed by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, in a report published yesterday.

The new powers were attacked by some groups as sweeping and excessive, but were welcomed by the Police Federation as a help on the beat.

In contrast, some of the proposed safeguards for suspects which would be formulated in a new statutory code, were welcomed by civil liberty groups, but Sir David McNeen, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said that they would make the task of the police in dealing with serious crime more difficult.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said that the report was unique in its scope and thoroughness. The Government would have full discussion on the recommendations before reaching any conclusions.

Many of the commission's proposals on police powers are designed to rationalize anomalous laws, and make them uniform throughout England and Wales, but in some cases extensions of powers are recommended.

The police would have wider powers to stop and search people in the street, or vehicles, for stolen goods, or on reasonable suspicion of possessing prohibited articles such as drugs or firearms. But the reasons for the stop and search would have to be noted in the policeman's notebook and the person must be informed of them.

A new power would be given to the police to enter premises to look for evidence of serious crime, provided certain stringent criteria were met.

The law on arrest would be extended to allow a policeman to arrest without warrant anyone suspected of any imprisonable offence, but only in specified conditions according to what the commission calls the "necessity principle", which includes stopping an offence being committed.

A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.

Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.

After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrate's court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.

The magistrates' decision to allow the police to keep a suspect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.

The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a summary of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.

Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.

Continued on page 3, col 6

missioner, said that they would make the task of the police in dealing with serious crime more difficult.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said that the report was unique in its scope and thoroughness. The Government would have full discussion on the recommendations before reaching any conclusions.

Many of the commission's proposals on police powers are designed to rationalize anomalous laws, and make them uniform throughout England and Wales, but in some cases extensions of powers are recommended.

The police would have wider powers to stop and search people in the street, or vehicles, for stolen goods, or on reasonable suspicion of possessing prohibited articles such as drugs or firearms. But the reasons for the stop and search would have to be noted in the policeman's notebook and the person must be informed of them.

A new power would be given to the police to enter premises to look for evidence of serious crime, provided certain stringent criteria were met.

The law on arrest would be extended to allow a policeman to arrest without warrant anyone suspected of any imprisonable offence, but only in specified conditions according to what the commission calls the "necessity principle", which includes stopping an offence being committed.

A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.

Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.

After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrate's court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.

The magistrates' decision to allow the police to keep a suspect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.

The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a summary of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.

Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.

Continued on page 3, col 6

includes stopping an offence being committed.

A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.

Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.

After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrate's court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.

The magistrates' decision to allow the police to keep a suspect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.

The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a summary of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.

Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

includes stopping an offence being committed.

A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.

Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.

After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrate's court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.

The magistrates' decision to allow the police to keep a suspect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.

The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a summary of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.

Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

includes stopping an offence being committed.

A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.

Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.

After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrate's court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.

The magistrates' decision to allow the police to keep a suspect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.

The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a summary of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.

Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6

Continued on page 3, col 6



The Queen at Windsor yesterday for the funeral of Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, with (from left) Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Princess Paul of Yugoslavia, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and former Queen Juliana of The Netherlands. Report, page 12.

Test case on bidding at art auction

By Kenneth Gosling, Arts Reporter
Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, has authorized proceedings against Thomas Agnew and Sons Ltd, the leading London art dealers, over the sale of the Algalardi bust of Mgr Cerri at Christie's in September, 1979.

Summons have been served under section 1 of the Auctions (Bidding Agreement) Act, 1927, and are returnable at Bow Street Magistrates' Court next Friday. The Attorney General's office said yesterday that the proceedings would in some ways be a test case intended to help to clarify the present law.

Agnew said: "We have always been of the understanding, and remain so as we have publicly stated several times, that we have not contravened the Act."

The successful bid amounted to £165,000. In December the same year Agnew applied to the court to have the bust to the Metropolitan Museum in New York at a valuation of £265,000; the application was not accepted by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

The Attorney General's office said that in authorizing the proceedings Sir Michael was aware of feelings of uncertainty as to the precise scope of the Act among many directly affected by it and on the other hand of the informed concern expressed about certain aspects of the sale by auction of valuable works of art that formed part of the national heritage.

The relevant section of the Act says: "If any dealer agrees to give, or gives, or offers any gift or consideration to any other person as an inducement or reward for abstaining, or for having abstained, from bidding at a sale by auction either generally or for any particular lot, or if any person agrees to accept, or accepts, or attempts to obtain from any dealer any such gift or consideration as aforesaid, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act."

Dealers can remain within the law provided that before an auction there has been an agreement in writing, a copy of which is deposited with the auctioneer.

Russian defects from military talks team

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 8
Mr Viktor Nikolayevich Korolyuk, aged 35, the interpreter for the Soviet delegation at the Vienna troop reduction negotiations, has defected to West Germany, a Government spokesman confirmed today.

Reports by the Austrian news agency APA and the Stuttgarter Zeitung said he had brought with him confidential Soviet documents about the east block's future strategy at the mutual and balanced force reduction (MBFR) talks between the Western alliance and the Warsaw Pact powers.

They said he flew from Vienna to Düsseldorf on December 17 and was taken to an undisclosed spot by the West German intelligence service for questioning.

A Government spokesman confirmed that Mr Korolyuk had entered West Germany but declined to give any further details.

However official sources described Mr Korolyuk as "a man who can tell us a lot".

Russians gone: The Park Hotel in Baden, south of Vienna, stated that the Soviet delegation left there for Moscow on December 20 after the latest round of talks ended. It was not expected back until January 20.

The latest round of the 19-nation talks, which have gone on for seven years, ended on December 18. The Warsaw Pact then said that it would not change its position despite Western contentions that it had misrepresented its troop strength.

Disagreements over troop levels which Nato says the Warsaw pact understates by 150,000 men, have bogged down the talks for years.—Reuter.

Society faces cash loss investigation

By Margaret Stone
The police are investigating alleged irregularities in the Alfreton Building Society in Derbyshire.

Mr John Flanders, chairman of the £54m building society, said in a letter to the society's 3,500 members yesterday that the board "for some time had been concerned about the possible irregularities in the affairs of the Alfreton society".

The Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies and the Building Societies Association were made aware of the difficulties last week and an effective rescue operation was mounted.

Pending the outcome of the inquiries, Mr Roy Ward, aged 51, the society's secretary, has been suspended.

Some months ago the Alfreton Society had been discussing a possible transfer of engagements with the neighbouring Britannia Building Society, with assets of well over £1,000m, is the tenth largest society and well experienced in building society takeovers.

Business was brisker than usual yesterday at the Alfreton's single branch in Alfreton High Street. But, alerted to the possibility of a run on the society by worried members, the Britannia, with the required approval from the Chief Registrar, had ferried employees and money to the town.

The society's difficulties came less than three years after the big defalcation at the Grays Building Society in Essex. That led to calls for an official society rescue fund and for more stringent requirements for building society auditors.

One line of inquiry being pursued by the police is the possibility that cheques were drawn against members' accounts. Until a detailed check has been made, however, it will not be possible to determine the full extent of the losses.

Financial Editor, page 15

Rail strike threat suspended after management plea

Train drivers' leaders voted by six to three to suspend the threat to disrupt services so that a joint approach with British Rail management could be made to the Government for more investment in the railways.

The strike threat was suspended after an impassioned appeal by Sir Peter Parver, British Rail chairman, not to jeopardize the chance of government aid by taking militant action. He said glittering prizes were to be won.

First Reagan Cabinet

President-elect Ronald Reagan presided over the first full meeting of his future Cabinet in Washington. Its purpose was to review the goals set by the incoming administration and the meeting was later described as "a seminar to understand each other".

Liquidations record

More companies than ever went out of business in 1980. By the end of the year 5,814 companies had gone into liquidation in England and Wales. But about 143,000 new firms or partnerships were at least provisionally registered, of which 57,000 were new companies.

Intensive Tehran talks on American hostages

The Algerian intermediaries in the American hostages issue have been locked in intensive discussions with Iranian officials. It appears that Tehran wants to settle the matter before the Reagan Administration takes office. Mr Warren Christopher, the American Deputy Secretary of State, has arrived in Algiers for talks with Mr Muhammad Sadik El Bahly, Algeria's Foreign Minister.

Golden handshakes

Nine former directors of Spillers, the food group, left with "golden handshakes" totalling £1.7m after Spillers was taken over by Dalgety, the international meat group. Mr Michael Moore, managing director of Coral Leisure, the gambling group, is expected to receive about £200,000 on his resignation from the company.

'Hostility' to graduates

Some of Britain's new universities are of a poor standard and an "active embarrassment", according to a government liaison officer for education. He expects there will be increased hostility towards graduates by employers and he warns universities that they must face up to scepticism.

Water action threat

Among several militant decisions by public sector union leaders, the National Union of Public Employees recommended unspecified industrial action by water workers over the employers' refusal to increase their offer of a 2.9 per cent pay rise. The employers were accused of a serious misjudgment.

Namibia conference settles status issue

A formula was devised at the United Nations-sponsored Geneva conference on Namibia to allow the internal parties recognition at the meeting without undermining its bilateral status. This amounted to personal introductions, considered a victory for the parties. The South West Africa People's Organization countered with a gesture of unity.

Leader page 11
Center: On the Calangogorps, from Mr Peter Rodgicks and Mr Mark Hutchinson, and Mr P. D. Hamilton; defence choices, from Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton; trees for energy, from Dr George Besserk.

Leading articles: Criminal justice; Japanese defence. Features: pages 6, 10
Geoffrey Smith says only government confidence will plug the leaks. Professor Hayek on the Third World; Michael Binyon's Moscow Diary.

Arts: page 7
David Robinson on the NPT Ylimaz Güney session, and on The Sun Man; Clive Barnes on the Royal Danish Ballet; and John Percival on Covent Garden's La Fille mal gardée.

Sport, pages 8, 9
Rugby Union: Three new caps in Welsh team to play England; Cricket: Australia win on day international against India; Football: Chelsea announce £14m redevelopment of Stamford Bridge; Athletics: 17,000 apply to enter London Marathon.

Obituary, page 12
Mr Alvar Lidell, Professor Kazimierz Michalowski, Business News, pages 13-15
Stock markets: Equities recovered after a dull start led by oils and electricals. Glits encountered further losses with the new "big" receiving little support. The FT Index closed 0.9 lower at 459.3.

Je Reviens

Let Je Reviens be your message from now on - as a parfum, parfum de toilette, eau de cologne, eau de toilette, ml, savon and other bathhouse luxuries.

From high class stores, selected chemists and the larger branches of Boots.

WORTH

PARIS

Worth Perfumes Ltd, 160 Tottenham Road, London W4 3RG Tel: 07-934 237/5

HOME NEWS

Militant decisions by public sector unions augur ill for pay calm

By Paul Routledge

Public sector unions took a militant turn yesterday when fresh difficulties for the Government were posed by union leaders of water workers, civil servants, power station workers and hospital manual staff.

The most serious development was a decision by the National Union of Public Employees to recommend unspecified industrial action by water workers over the employers' refusal to increase their offer of a 7.9 per cent pay rise. Mr Ronald Keating, NUPE's chief negotiator, accused the National Union of Public Employees of playing a very dangerous game of bluff which could have disastrous consequences.

If the employers thought the union would retreat from their threats of industrial action because there had never been a water strike before, then they were making a "serious miscalculation" of rank-and-file attitudes. A strike was "certainly, very much on the cards".

Noting that gas workers had been offered a similar pay rise, Mr Keating argued: "It would be incredible if there had not been government coordination between these two responses." The offer to the gas men has been rejected.

Unions representing 85,000 power workers submitted a pay claim of "close to 20 per cent" yesterday. They also proposed a three-hour reduction in the 38-hour working week, retirement at 60 and better shift pay.

By Michael Bailey

Shipping Correspondent

Seamen on oil rig supply ships at Aberdeen and other ports yesterday anticipated Monday's planned strike by refusing to sail.

In London talks between the National Union of Seamen and the shipowners through the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), failed to resolve the pay dispute and the prospect of a partial strike of British shipping on Monday drew closer. The unions want an increase of 16 per cent or arbitration: the owners have offered 10 per cent.

The union will instruct members on deep-sea ships not to sail from British ports from Monday, members on ferry and short-sea ships to intensify selective industrial action, and members on ships of 14 un-union companies to be considered by the union to be "hunks" in the dispute to stop work.

A union official said: "Unless the owners agree to arbitration or come up with an improved offer we begin a campaign of intensified industrial action next Monday."

By John Young

Planning Reporter

The staff of the Government's Property Services Agency, which is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of thousands of government buildings and installations, may be cut by a quarter or more by 1984.

The agency accounts for nearly three quarters of the Department of the Environment's total payroll of just under 50,000. About half of those are engineering, construction and maintenance workers in what is broadly the Government's equivalent of the direct labour organizations administered by local authorities.

The department yesterday was unable to confirm a report in this week's issue of *Building Design* magazine, which states that plans have been submitted to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, for a reduction of 10,000 jobs within the agency.

But officials indicated that the agency was likely to suffer a much higher staff cuts than the Civil Service as a whole, for which the Government's target is a 10 per cent reduction in manpower.

That would accord with Conservative party philosophy, which is generally opposed to direct labour employment by both central and local government. It would prefer as much design and building work as possible to be contracted to the private sector.

Laker cheap fares call on taking up first airbus

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

Sir Freddie Laker, chairman of the independent airline, Laker Airways, received delivery of the first of a fleet of 10 European A300 airbuses yesterday and took the opportunity to pass on a message about cheap fares to the Prime Minister.

The Government and the Civil Aviation Authority had said they liked competition in air transport and believed in low fares. But when his airline applied for 630 cheap-fare routes within Europe, "they wished us luck instead of licensing us", he said.

"We put our money where our mouth is, spending it on British equipment and on producing more jobs for Britain. We are prepared to have fares. We would say to the Prime Minister: 'We are ready when you are, darling, because we have got the equipment. Any time you want to go'."

The new Airbus, with its main airframe parts produced in France, West Germany and Britain, made a symbolic fly-past at the Laker Gatwick airport base after a delivery flight from Toulouse, in south-west France, to the cheers of Sir Freddie's staff.

It enters service tomorrow on a package holiday flight to Majorca. Before he boarded the 298-seater Airbus, Sir Freddie was presented by the aircraft's manufacturers with a mini Metro car, registration number FLV 1, the number once owned by Lord Brabazon, holder of the first British pilot's licence.



Sir Freddie Laker greeting the touchdown yesterday of the first European Airbus, for service with Laker Airways.

It enters service tomorrow on a package holiday flight to Majorca. Before he boarded the 298-seater Airbus, Sir Freddie was presented by the aircraft's manufacturers with a mini Metro car, registration number FLV 1, the number once owned by Lord Brabazon, holder of the first British pilot's licence.

Three more A300s are due to be delivered at the beginning of next year, two in 1982 and one in 1983, and Sir Freddie told me he is negotiating further options to purchase.

The Laker Airbus is powered by American General Electric CF6 engines and, according to Sir Freddie, has "all mod cons", including in-flight films and stereo, a facility to pick up any television station, so that passengers can watch *Match of the Day* or *Coronation Street* if we are delayed by air traffic control.

"I once said that any aeroplane designed by a committee is bound to wind up as a camel, but looking at my new Airbus I know I was wrong."

It was presented to Sir Freddie on Lord Brabazon's death. The Airbus has been named Metro. The deal for the A300, the first to go on the British register, and two others which Laker Airways will receive this year, is being funded to the extent of £55m by a consortium of 13 banks, headed by the Midland.

contact with the Gardai south of the border. British Army helicopters, which are allowed to cross the border for about five kilometres in hot pursuit, have been equipped to establish immediate radio contact with the Gardai until the southern security forces are in a position to take over the chase.

The improved cooperation between the police north and south of the border has been shown in the past year by a series of spectacular arms finds, mainly in the republic. The British Army, despite a reduction in force levels of 1,500 to 11,300 in the past year, has been able to deploy significant numbers of troops in border areas.

Intensive activity by both the police and Army has greatly reduced tension in the border areas of Co Fermanagh, where a series of hit-and-run murders of members of the security forces who live in the area had last year raised tension among the local Protestant population to a dangerous level.

It remains the Army's intention, security permitting, to reduce troop levels to six resident battalions, equivalent to about 6,000 men.

The aim is to end all the short tours of four months by the "routelement" battalions, of which there are four in the province. The "routelement" tours are regarded as severely disruptive because they effectively remove the soldier from all other duties for about nine months as a result of additional training and leave entitlement.

No target dates, however, have been firmly established for troop reductions. The indications are that the Provisional IRA, whose terrorist activities have drawn to a virtual close in the past few months, is re-examining its direction and is subject to considerable internal division.

Nobody seriously expects a ceasefire, but a lot of soul-searching about future direction appears to be going on. For the time being the security situation has improved to the extent that in urban areas visiting battalions of the Army now regularly patrol only Belfast, Londonderry and Derry, in co Tyrone. Patrols in other built-up parts of the province are invariably by members of the locally recruited Ulster Defence Regiment.

It is unofficially estimated that the hard core strength of the Provisional IRA, defined as those who carry out shootings and bombings, numbers between 250 and 300. Similar estimates about three years ago put the figure at about 350.

Newly established communication system expected to save vital minutes for Army in Ulster

Security package improves Gardai and RUC cooperation

From Christopher Thomas

Belfast

The Army in Northern Ireland is allowed to make direct emergency communications with police in the Irish Republic as part of a package of measures to improve cross-border security.

The system became fully operational last year under the influence of Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic. It had, however, been agreed in principle late in 1979 at Downing Street between Mr Jack Lynch, the former prime minister, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Since that meeting, which resulted from the Mountbatten and Warren Point atrocities in August, 1978, cross-border co-operation between the Gardai and the Royal Ulster Constabulary has much improved.

Before that, useful emergency communications barely existed. The system was inefficient and slow, and generally not capable of responding effectively in a crisis.

The Army is authorized to make direct communications with the Gardai only in an emergency when there is not time to get in touch with the RUC. But the arrangement has made a worthwhile contribution to effectiveness in emergency border operations.

Clearly, the main task of cross-border cooperation is between the two police forces, and in anything other than exceptional circumstances the Army is expected to leave matters in the hands of the RUC.

But there are occasions, mainly in cases of hot pursuit, when the Army can save vital minutes by using a newly established radio system for direct

contact with the Gardai south of the border. British Army helicopters, which are allowed to cross the border for about five kilometres in hot pursuit, have been equipped to establish immediate radio contact with the Gardai until the southern security forces are in a position to take over the chase.

The improved cooperation between the police north and south of the border has been shown in the past year by a series of spectacular arms finds, mainly in the republic. The British Army, despite a reduction in force levels of 1,500 to 11,300 in the past year, has been able to deploy significant numbers of troops in border areas.

Intensive activity by both the police and Army has greatly reduced tension in the border areas of Co Fermanagh, where a series of hit-and-run murders of members of the security forces who live in the area had last year raised tension among the local Protestant population to a dangerous level.

It remains the Army's intention, security permitting, to reduce troop levels to six resident battalions, equivalent to about 6,000 men.

The aim is to end all the short tours of four months by the "routelement" battalions, of which there are four in the province. The "routelement" tours are regarded as severely disruptive because they effectively remove the soldier from all other duties for about nine months as a result of additional training and leave entitlement.

No target dates, however, have been firmly established for troop reductions. The indications are that the Provisional IRA, whose terrorist activities have drawn to a virtual close in the past few months, is re-examining its direction and is subject to considerable internal division.

Nobody seriously expects a ceasefire, but a lot of soul-searching about future direction appears to be going on. For the time being the security situation has improved to the extent that in urban areas visiting battalions of the Army now regularly patrol only Belfast, Londonderry and Derry, in co Tyrone. Patrols in other built-up parts of the province are invariably by members of the locally recruited Ulster Defence Regiment.

It is unofficially estimated that the hard core strength of the Provisional IRA, defined as those who carry out shootings and bombings, numbers between 250 and 300. Similar estimates about three years ago put the figure at about 350.

Labour sets out choices on policy for Northern Ireland

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

With a view to making a new declaration of Labour party policy on Northern Ireland, the national executive yesterday circulated to constituency parties and affiliated organizations a consultative paper setting out some of the important questions.

It is the work of a study group chaired by Mr Alexander Kitson, chairman of the party, who is deputy general secretary of the transport workers union. Representing the Parliamentary Labour Party were two former Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Merlyn Rees and Mr Roy Mason.

The group points out that unity between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland is the objective of all the main political parties in the republic

and of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Northern Ireland, but it was not supported by the majority of the Protestant community in Northern Ireland. That community had "by legitimate and illegitimate means" resisted any attempts to bring it about.

Discussing other possibilities, the paper states: "Britain could, for example, declare that she favoured unification; and she could then try to persuade the majority in Northern Ireland that this course would be in their best interests."

Alternatively, the British government could go further and declare an intention to withdraw, with or without a vote on the withdrawal being given.

Should the majority remain opposed to unification, as on the evidence seemed possible, the only other course the party could take, it was determined

to achieve unification, would be withdrawal from Northern Ireland without seeking the consent of the Northern Ireland people.

In those circumstances "the party would have to make it clear that it does not believe the decision should be left to the Northern Ireland people alone; and that it would seek parliamentary approval for the expulsion of Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom."

The group also discusses a shared responsibility. "Here the Republic of Ireland would become the guarantor of the rights of the Catholic minority and would be given the power to veto any legislation regarded as unfavourable to that minority."

There might also be a Council of Ireland on which both the republic and the government of Northern Ireland or the United Kingdom were represented to consider legislation affecting the relationship between the two parts of Ireland.

This would be the "first step" towards some kind of agreed union, if unification was achieved, the United Kingdom government could become the guarantor of the rights of what would be the Protestant minority.

Some had argued that British withdrawal without the consent of the majority could lead to a declaration of independence. A proposal for negotiated independence had, in fact, been put forward by the new Ulster Political Research Group.

Given the size of the existing subvention to Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom, which, net of tax, amounted to some £1,000m a year, an independent Northern Ireland would clearly need transitional funding arrangements.

On those and other questions the national executive asks for the views of local parties and unions; their object is to put before the party conference in the autumn a statement of the proposals which would be adopted by a future Labour government to tackle the issue.

A bitter attack on the Rev. Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, was made by Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, in a speech in Belfast last night. He emphasized that his party was the only one in Northern Ireland devoted to preserving and strengthening the union.

It was an understatement to say that Mr Paisley's demand for a referendum was designed to bring about an independent Northern Ireland and was the most dangerous assault on the union since the Sunningdale conference in 1973.

On those and other questions the national executive asks for the views of local parties and unions; their object is to put before the party conference in the autumn a statement of the proposals which would be adopted by a future Labour government to tackle the issue.

A bitter attack on the Rev. Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, was made by Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, in a speech in Belfast last night. He emphasized that his party was the only one in Northern Ireland devoted to preserving and strengthening the union.

It was an understatement to say that Mr Paisley's demand for a referendum was designed to bring about an independent Northern Ireland and was the most dangerous assault on the union since the Sunningdale conference in 1973.

On those and other questions the national executive asks for the views of local parties and unions; their object is to put before the party conference in the autumn a statement of the proposals which would be adopted by a future Labour government to tackle the issue.

A bitter attack on the Rev. Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, was made by Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, in a speech in Belfast last night. He emphasized that his party was the only one in Northern Ireland devoted to preserving and strengthening the union.

It was an understatement to say that Mr Paisley's demand for a referendum was designed to bring about an independent Northern Ireland and was the most dangerous assault on the union since the Sunningdale conference in 1973.

Councils to face grant cut of more than 8%

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

The government grant to local authorities in England for the year 1981-82 has been cut by more than 8 per cent, according to figures released yesterday by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

The association says that more than half of the reduction, £440m, is borne by London and the other metropolitan authorities.

When Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced the rate support grant in December, he said that under the new arrangements London would lose £100m in grant, but there would be no effect on the other metropolitan areas overall.

Statistics produced by the association indicate that the reduction in expenditure is greater than the target set by the Government, being 3.1 per cent overall on the target figures for 1980-81.

Within the 3.1 per cent figure, England bears cuts of 3.3 per cent and Wales 1.9 per cent, but the association says that other comparisons give a much worse picture for English local authorities.

Compared with local authorities' original plans for 1980-81, the targets for 1981-82 show a reduction of 8.2 per cent, it says. Even worse, based on long-term targets, the spending expectations of local authorities have been cut by 16 per cent in the past 22 months.

Liberal resigns after accepting 34% rents rise

From Our Correspondent

Liverpool

Councillor Richard Kemp, the Liberal chairman of Liverpool City Council's housing committee, yesterday steered through a 34 per cent rent rise for 80,000 tenants, then resigned the chairmanship. He blamed Conservative national policy for cutting the housing subsidy by £11.8m.

His resignation was a personal protest against the restrictions and moratorium imposed by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The Liberals have minor control, and the proposal was eventually carried by 14 votes to 9.

12 face court martial

Twelve members of The Royal Irish Rangers are to appear before a court martial at Tidworth, on Salisbury Plain, next Monday, charged with offences arising from an incident involving soldiers and police at Tidworth last June.

'Handless body' trial

The jury in the case of 1 people charged in connection with a handless body found in a flooded quarry is expected to be sworn in at Lancaster Castle on Tuesday.

St Etheldreda find

A thirteenth-century wall painting of St Etheldreda, patron saint of Ely cathedral, has been discovered in the parish church at Willingham Cambridgeshire.



Weather proof

The original warmer-upper.
On its own or as a
Stone's Whisky Mac.

NGA secretary is optimistic on future of 'The Times'

Continued from page 1

Association, said: "There is a recognition that the paper's part that there is a new atmosphere in Fleet Street not just because of the closure of the *Evening News*, but because the closure of the *Evening News* is a better chance of being able to deliver agreements which are signed. There is reason for a degree of optimism."

Mr Brunton said that once a potential purchaser has emerged he will enter into immediate negotiations with the unions to negotiate acceptable arrangements.

"In the event that agreement cannot be reached with a purchaser interested in the whole company, then the negotiations will then set out our achievement a second objective, which is to sell individually the constituent parts of the com-

pany to individual buyers, and they will be seeking their own individual negotiations with you, the general secretaries."

He hoped that if that happened before the closure dates set by Lord Thomson of Fleet for all titles in March. If there is no agreement all publication will cease and the titles and assets will be sold to interested parties, but not as a going concern.

He added: "All interested parties are adamant that in the light of Thomson's experience they need to be satisfied both at general secretary level and at chapter level that any agreement that is made will be honoured."

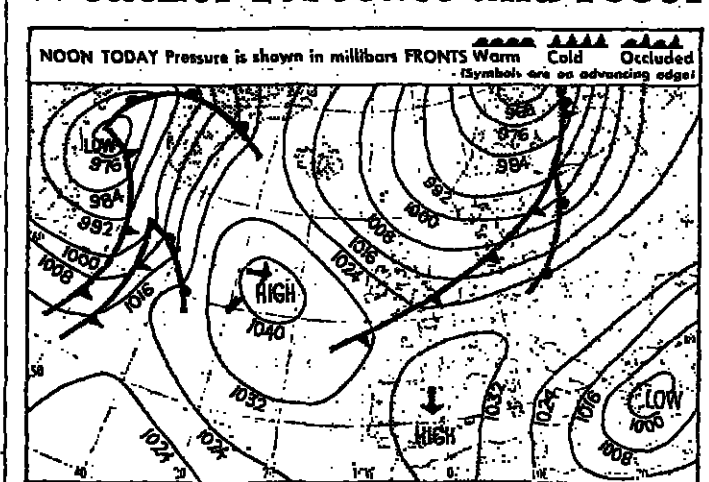
The general secretaries were thanked by Mr Brunton for the continuous and good production of the newspapers since the closure announcement. "The like of which we have never seen on a consistent basis in the company's history."

Benn neighbour loses plea

A smallholder who said the gardener of Mr Wedgwood Benn, Labour MP for Bristol, South East, harassed her family was refused leave yesterday in appeal against a judge's refusal to punish him.

Five weeks ago the Benn family's gardener and handyman, had continued to trespass and to interfere with her livestock.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 6.42 am. Sun sets: 4.12 pm.
Moon rises: 5.58 am. Moon sets: 8.2 pm.
First quarter: January 13.
Lighting up: 4.42 pm to 7.33 am.
High water: 4.42 pm, 7.33 am, 7.22 pm, 1.5m. Low water: 12.53 am, 9.04 am, 1.10 pm, 9.4m.
1ft = 0.3048m. 1m = 3.2808ft.
A cold front will clear S Britain, leaving a dry area in a NW stream.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:
London, SE, SW, central S, England, Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Rather cloudy, rain or drizzle in places, becoming dry with bright or clear intervals; wind W to NW, moderate; max temp 9°C (48°F), becoming colder.
East Anglia: Cloudy with rain or drizzle, brighter later with scattered, mainly light showers; wind W to NW, fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F), becoming colder.

E, central N, E England: Rain or drizzle in places at first, becoming mostly dry, with sunny intervals; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).
N Wales, NW England: Rain in places at first, becoming brighter with showers; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).
Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Scattered showers and sunny intervals, becoming mostly dry; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).
Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Sunny intervals, isolated showers dying out; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).
Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals and showers, heavy in places, becoming drier, especially over high ground; wind NW, strong, occasionally gale; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Cold with wintry showers in N and E at first, becoming milder with cloud and rain spreading to all parts from NW. Sea passages: S North Sea.

Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, veering W, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.
Irish Sea: Wind W, strong, occasionally gale force; sea rough or very rough.

Yesterday
London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10°C (50°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3°C (37°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 89 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.4 mm. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.033 h. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,033.3 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

| Station | Temp | Wind | Cloud | Drizzle |
|----------|------|------|-------|---------|
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |
| Aberdeen | 10.5 | SE | 100 | |

مكتبة من الأصل

HOME NEWS

'Embarrassingly poor' standards at some of the new universities

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Some of Britain's universities are of such poor standard as to be an acute embarrassment to the nation, the Government's liaison officer for higher and further education said yesterday.

Speaking at the universities conference of the National Union of Students in Coventry, Mr Robert Rhodes James, Conservative MP for Cambridge and a former director of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University, said: "There is no question that the actual performance of certain of the new universities has been remarkably and worryingly uneven."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

Turning to the committee's comments on postgraduate awards, the Government said that the Social Sciences Research Council was seeking a number of developments designed to improve the success rate of PhD students on their grants.

Those developments included giving more emphasis to the quality of student supervision in determining the allocation of awards and encouraging new modes of PhD research training.

The Science Research Council also had plans to improve the success rate of its PhD students by insisting that the writing up of doctoral theses should take place within the formal three-year period of support.

Treasury minutes on the 15th to 16th reports from the Committee of Public Accounts (Command 8125, Stationery Office, £2.40).

Mr Ellis claims that at the heart of the crisis lies the government system of British and parliamentary democracy based on the motto of 'Parliamentary sovereignty'.

In the first instance, he says, Parliament has been rendered impotent by a system of party discipline which has the glacial pace of a snail.

The government, he claims, is a puppet of the party machine, and he claims that the party machine is a puppet of the money.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

Computers could cut school time, peer says

From John O'Leary
The Times Higher Education Supplement

New technology could save the Government £500m annually by cutting a year off the average time a pupil spends in the education system, Lord Perry of Walton, former Vice-Chancellor of the Open University, said yesterday.

He told the North of England Education Conference in Carlisle that the coming technological revolution would be as significant as the introduction of printing presses. The result, he said, would be a "communication explosion" which would force education into radical and necessary changes.

There has been over several centuries a steady acceleration in the rate of acquisition of knowledge, Lord Perry said. "It seems to me that education has not successfully adjusted to this change in a gradual pattern, so that we are in a state of disequilibrium where there will have to be a quantum jump in order to restore the balance."

New technology would make it possible for pupils to choose from a vast range of expert prepared courses, called up by personal computer terminals from a national library. The only constraint to choice would be the breadth of education considered desirable, he said.

Although such a service could be provided at home there were many good reasons for retaining schools. Teachers would assume a more generalist role, a specialist courses would be available centrally.

Experience had shown that remarkable results were produced when children were stimulated by a subject. They did not share the adult's fear of computers, and most could be expected to progress more quickly under an individualized, self-instructional system, he argued.

It might be possible as a result to reduce the average time spent in initial education by a year, which would produce a saving of £500m at today's prices.

Any such change would require political commitment on a scale much greater than that which produced the Open University. Because of educationists' resistance to change and the vast vested interest in retaining the status quo, he thought a Third World country was most likely to give a lead.

Mr Ellis claims that at the heart of the crisis lies the government system of British and parliamentary democracy based on the motto of 'Parliamentary sovereignty'.

In the first instance, he says, Parliament has been rendered impotent by a system of party discipline which has the glacial pace of a snail.

The government, he claims, is a puppet of the party machine, and he claims that the party machine is a puppet of the money.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

WEST EUROPE

Italian Communists prepare for taking their share of power

From John Earle
Rome, Jan 8

The Italian Communist Party, with more than 1,700,000 members the biggest in the western world, is discussing how to overhaul its rusty machinery and make itself fit for, one day, becoming the leading party in government.

This claim was leaked in late November by Signor Enrico Berlinguer, its secretary, who after the repeated scandals affecting the Christian Democrats and the tardiness of the government's efforts to deal with the southern Italian earthquake, said the Communists should envisage leading a coalition.

The party has covered much ground in recent months. It has publicly condemned any idea of a Soviet attempt to intervene in Poland. It sees its international future in Eurocommunism and in developing links with left-wing forces in a state of disequilibrium where there will have to be a quantum jump in order to restore the balance.

New technology would make it possible for pupils to choose from a vast range of expert prepared courses, called up by personal computer terminals from a national library. The only constraint to choice would be the breadth of education considered desirable, he said.

Although such a service could be provided at home there were many good reasons for retaining schools. Teachers would assume a more generalist role, a specialist courses would be available centrally.

Experience had shown that remarkable results were produced when children were stimulated by a subject. They did not share the adult's fear of computers, and most could be expected to progress more quickly under an individualized, self-instructional system, he argued.

It might be possible as a result to reduce the average time spent in initial education by a year, which would produce a saving of £500m at today's prices.

Any such change would require political commitment on a scale much greater than that which produced the Open University. Because of educationists' resistance to change and the vast vested interest in retaining the status quo, he thought a Third World country was most likely to give a lead.

Mr Ellis claims that at the heart of the crisis lies the government system of British and parliamentary democracy based on the motto of 'Parliamentary sovereignty'.

In the first instance, he says, Parliament has been rendered impotent by a system of party discipline which has the glacial pace of a snail.

The government, he claims, is a puppet of the party machine, and he claims that the party machine is a puppet of the money.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform, and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

ling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1978 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.

He identified two problems in particular: young people and the South. The party's youth organization lost 74,000 members last year. In the south, the party tended to become too involved in local political arrangements and was too distant from economic and social realities.

But Signor Napolitano's criticisms were aimed at the party machinery.

He said: "The line to be followed is that of a decisive renewal in the style of work and in the method of direction at all levels."

He spoke of confusion and muddle in party structures, and of ritualism and suffocating bureaucracy. Many people were discouraged from taking an active part in party life by the repetitiveness of meetings, the prolixity and generality—and indeed the inconclusiveness—of discussions, as well as by the abstruseness of a jargon which does not at all reflect an effort at cultural analysis.

The central committee's debates should be more agile and incisive, he said.

Taking an example from it, he said, the party did not need to conclude with unanimous votes. More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as affliction of other Italian parties with their internal groupings.

The party membership rose by 20 per cent between 1978 and 1979, but Signor Napolitano noted that it had been dwindling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1978 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.

He identified two problems in particular: young people and the South. The party's youth organization lost 74,000 members last year. In the south, the party tended to become too involved in local political arrangements and was too distant from economic and social realities.

But Signor Napolitano's criticisms were aimed at the party machinery.

He said: "The line to be followed is that of a decisive renewal in the style of work and in the method of direction at all levels."

He spoke of confusion and muddle in party structures, and of ritualism and suffocating bureaucracy. Many people were discouraged from taking an active part in party life by the repetitiveness of meetings, the prolixity and generality—and indeed the inconclusiveness—of discussions, as well as by the abstruseness of a jargon which does not at all reflect an effort at cultural analysis.

The central committee's debates should be more agile and incisive, he said.

Taking an example from it, he said, the party did not need to conclude with unanimous votes. More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as affliction of other Italian parties with their internal groupings.

The party membership rose by 20 per cent between 1978 and 1979, but Signor Napolitano noted that it had been dwindling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1978 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.

He identified two problems in particular: young people and the South. The party's youth organization lost 74,000 members last year. In the south, the party tended to become too involved in local political arrangements and was too distant from economic and social realities.

But Signor Napolitano's criticisms were aimed at the party machinery.

He said: "The line to be followed is that of a decisive renewal in the style of work and in the method of direction at all levels."

He spoke of confusion and muddle in party structures, and of ritualism and suffocating bureaucracy. Many people were discouraged from taking an active part in party life by the repetitiveness of meetings, the prolixity and generality—and indeed the inconclusiveness—of discussions, as well as by the abstruseness of a jargon which does not at all reflect an effort at cultural analysis.

The central committee's debates should be more agile and incisive, he said.

Taking an example from it, he said, the party did not need to conclude with unanimous votes. More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as affliction of other Italian parties with their internal groupings.

The party membership rose by 20 per cent between 1978 and 1979, but Signor Napolitano noted that it had been dwindling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1978 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.



Polluted emperor: The statue of Marcus Aurelius, the emperor and Stoic philosopher, was lifted from its base in Rome yesterday after 17 centuries of grandeur which had been clouded by smog. A few hundred tourists braved a biting east wind to watch a crane do the job and set the statue up on a temporary stand in the square on the Capital Hill.

Twentieth century pollution has corroded the bronze alloy of horse and rider which are being taken away for restoration at the San Michele Institute in the district of Trastevere. The group, said by legend to have been made in Constantinople, used to stand in front of St John Lateran but in 1538 was made the centrepiece of Michelangelo's Capital Square.

Firm justice demand challenged

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 8

An appeal to end "over-soft" treatment of young offenders by the French courts has not gone unchallenged by eminent judges.

It was M Paul-André Sadon, chief public prosecutor of the Paris court of appeal, who demanded greater firmness in the punishment of crime, especially of juvenile delinquency. He said it was time to end "clemency" from which criminals had benefited for the past decade or so under the influence of reformist ideas.

The counter-attack came at the solemn reopening of the Paris law courts yesterday. In the presence of the Minister of Justice, Mme Simone Rozes, its president, insisted that "juvenile" delinquency cannot be reduced to a theory, lenient or otherwise, but must be dealt with by the courts.

At every moment of his life, the judge of the juvenile court is confronted with these youths in a crisis, with these adolescents with whom no one—beginning with the parents—knows what to do; and one could, he said, be tempted to see in the virtue of his presence, he would wipe out all the failures of these kids, that he would rid us once and for all of these young rowdies who bother us and who tomorrow will clutter up our prisons. Reality is quite different: it cannot be cast in the mould of certainties," she insisted.

How can one speak of leniency when the prisons are overflowing with juvenile offenders? M Jean-Claude Xurabé, the president of the juvenile court declared in turn. "There is no significant increase in juvenile delinquency. The proportion of minors guilty of an act of violence does not exceed five per thousand."

M Xurabé proclaimed loudly what he thought of prison as a means of bringing young offenders back to the straight and narrow path.

He refused to name the

Confident M Barre has no time for his critics

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Jan 8

M Raymond Barre was in an unusually rumbustious and self-confident mood today, even by his own high standards—when he addressed the managers and directors of companies, mostly medium and small, at a one-day symposium organized by the economic bi-monthly journal *L'Expansion*.

The Prime Minister scattered his critics with a vengeance, castigating the press and the media for saying one thing one week and the opposite the next; poured scorn on opinion polls; and expressed complete indifference for what he described as the agitation of the political "microcosm".

The President and Parliament had retained their confidence in him. Why then should he be tortured by soul-searching?

The polls which show him to be the most unpopular Prime Minister of the Fifth Republic were "traps for suckers". "If one day Frenchmen want to change their Prime Minister, they will change him," he said. "I shall bow to their collective will or to the majority. This will not make me change my ideas. But to the extent that I have a policy, I shall not change it because I shall not change my day in the papers, on radio or on television, polls which contradict one another."

In the run up to the presidential elections, which he described as the most important event in the nation's affairs, M Barre said that there was "a particular disposition either to compulsory optimism or to systematic denigration, and a powerful inclination either to a mediocre desire to please or to fallacious promises."

His assertion that when he was faced with the problem of choosing between the interests of Frenchmen and those of France, he always chose the interests of France, had a Churchillian ring about it. But he had often been concerned for the interests of Frenchmen, and "all that I have done I did so that they would not have to pay in the future even more than what they had to in the present," he said.

I have always told the country what I would do and always done what I said. I would say I have misled them. Between them and me there has always been the best of truth."

A fit of hoursesides did not prevent him from hammering home the truth as he saw it. Those who claimed that his economic policy was not austere enough would be the first to let everything go if they came up against any difficulties.

I am capable of doing what Mr Thatcher is doing and inflicting on France a cure of deflation."

Another Berlin politician to resign after scandal

From Our Own Correspondent
Berlin, Jan 8

fourth departing member pending a meeting of his Social Democratic Party (SPD) tomorrow, but the SPD government would step down in a reshuffle prompted by a financial scandal.

He is regarded in the SPD as a right-winger whose departure would placate party left-wingers upset by today's resignation of their leader, Herr Harry Ristock, Senator of Housing and building.

Under emergency regulations immediately enforced, no central heating is allowed below 11 am and after 9 pm—although most Mairiens like to go to bed after midnight.

To reduce the pollution from car and lorry fumes, fines of £27 to £33 are to be levied immediately for illegal parking.

The fog has come because for six weeks it has not rained in the capital.

Another Berlin politician to resign after scandal

From Our Own Correspondent
Berlin, Jan 8

fourth departing member pending a meeting of his Social Democratic Party (SPD) tomorrow, but the SPD government would step down in a reshuffle prompted by a financial scandal.

He is regarded in the SPD as a right-winger whose departure would placate party left-wingers upset by today's resignation of their leader, Herr Harry Ristock, Senator of Housing and building.

Under emergency regulations immediately enforced, no central heating is allowed below 11 am and after 9 pm—although most Mairiens like to go to bed after midnight.

To reduce the pollution from car and lorry fumes, fines of £27 to £33 are to be levied immediately for illegal parking.

The fog has come because for six weeks it has not rained in the capital.

Another Berlin politician to resign after scandal

From Our Own Correspondent
Berlin, Jan 8

Decision soon on repairs to Lords ceiling

By Derek Barnett
Parliamentary Staff

The report by consultants on the condition of the decorative House of Lords ceiling, part of which fell into the Chamber last year, is expected to be ready by the end of this month.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, will then decide when the project to repair and restore the ceiling can go ahead.

The Property Services Agency, which is responsible for maintenance at the Palace of Westminster, said yesterday: "The matter of funding any work will be considered in the light of the report."

On July 21 last an ornamental wooden ceiling boss fell on to an empty opposition bench.

Three out of four pre-school children are still looked after by their mothers at home, according to a report published today.

But it points out that in five years the proportion of children under five years of age who spend part of their lives out of the care of their mothers has risen from one in six to one in four. A larger number of working mothers with pre-school children are employed part time rather than full time.

The report, a discussion document by the Children's Committee, which is an advisory committee to the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Secretary of State for Wales, points out that

Appeal likely over London private hospital proposal

By Nicholas Timmins

An appeal to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, to allow University College Hospital, in London, to build a 112-bed private hospital on National Health Service land is possible after a decision by the local area health authority in effect to block the proposal.

The hospital wants to lease a piece of unused health service land adjoining its site to build a private hospital at a cost of £12.6m. In return the company would build eight operating theatres for health service use, freeing the existing private patients wing to allow further development.

The proposal, drawn up by the special trustees of University College Hospital with help from Private Patients Plan, went to the London Area Health Authority on Monday, but the authority has blocked the proposal until at least next year.

The authority said yesterday that no decision was taken on two grounds. The first was that the proposal did not form part of the area's strategic plan up to 1984, and that Monday's meeting was the first time the authority had heard of the proposal. The second was that the reorganization of the health service, Camden and Islington Area Health Authority will cease to exist in March, 1982.

The proposal, drawn up by the special trustees of University College Hospital with help from Private Patients Plan, went to the London Area Health Authority on Monday, but the authority has blocked the proposal until at least next year.

The authority said yesterday that no decision was taken on two grounds. The first was that the proposal did not form part of the area's strategic plan up to 1984, and that Monday's meeting was the first time the authority had heard of the proposal. The second was that the reorganization of the health service, Camden and Islington Area Health Authority will cease to exist in March, 1982.

The proposal, drawn up by the special trustees of University College Hospital with help from Private Patients Plan, went to the London Area Health Authority on Monday, but the authority has blocked the proposal until at least next year.

Sealink cuts its fares in ferry price war

By Our Shipping Correspondent

The price war among cross-Channel ferry companies looks set to continue as Sealink yesterday cut a new range of fares from British Rail.

Sealink yesterday which, the company says, undercut those announced last month by Townsend Thoresen and P & O.

P & O promptly retaliated with matching cuts on some services and the promise of a new brochure with lower prices. Townsend Thoresen also said: "We are not going to be beaten by anybody."

The most attractive Sealink fare (matched by P & O) is £12.50 for a car and driver to the Continent until April.

Sealink also offers reduced fares on summer sailings

The price war among cross-Channel ferry companies looks set to continue as Sealink yesterday cut a new range of fares from British Rail.

Sealink yesterday which, the company says, undercut those announced last month by Townsend Thoresen and P & O.

Corsican hunger strikers fail to win release

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 8

Despite a hunger strike lasting nearly two months, six Corsicans have failed to win release from custody pending the start of their trial next week on charges of kidnapping and being members of an armed gang.

The six, who support Corsican autonomy, began their hunger strike in protest at nine others facing similar charges being released pending the hearing.

The Court of State Security's review bench today rejected their request for release.

M Alain Peyrefitte, the Minister of Justice, yesterday replied to Abbé Michel Petrolacci, a parish priest in Bastia, who had protested against the continued imprisonment of the six. An opponent of their cause, Pierre Bertolini, a former policeman who lost a leg in the Corsican struggle, has been charged with a series of bomb attacks, has been freed pending trial.

M Peyrefitte said the hunger strikers were seeking to blackmail justice and there was no question that their case was comparable to that of the former policeman.

"One cannot parallel the physical state of a person who has been seriously mutilated after an attack in which he is a victim, with the state of health of the six accused who have deliberately deprived themselves of nourishment," the minister said.

Red Cross says Afghanistan efforts failed

Geneva, Jan 8.—The past 12 months of efforts in Afghanistan by the International Red Cross Committee, after Soviet military intervention there, have been a total failure, the committee said here today.

"Despite repeated overtures to all the parties militarily engaged in the conflict, the committee has found it impossible to operate effectively," it said, describing this as "a serious setback to the humanitarian cause".

The committee said it was "deeply disappointed" that the humanitarian cause had failed.

The committee said it was "deeply disappointed" that the humanitarian cause had failed.

The committee said it was "deeply disappointed" that the humanitarian cause had failed.

The committee said it was "deeply disappointed" that the humanitarian cause had failed.

The committee said it was "deeply disappointed" that the humanitarian cause had failed.

Córdoba mayor upsets the bishop

OVERSEAS

Intensive discussions on hostages issue as Iranians try to avoid deal with new US administration

Tehran, Jan 8.—Algerian intermediaries in the American hostage issue held "intensive" discussions with Iranian officials last night, diplomatic sources said.

No details were disclosed, but other sources have said the Iranians were making efforts to reach an early settlement rather than deal with the incoming Reagan Administration which takes office in 12 days.

The sources said that the latest round of talks between Iran and three Algerian envoys coincided with a sudden trip to Algiers by Mr Warren Christopher, the United States Deputy Secretary of State. The envoys said only that they had no immediate plans to leave Tehran for home.

Any details of their talks could be relayed through the Algerian embassy here as were a list of questions the Iranians submitted two days ago on the latest American proposals for the hostages' release.

The Iranians' apparent reluctance to deal with a Reagan Administration comes after American officials warned Tehran that the negotiations might have to start all over again. Sources said the Iranian negotiators—so far in agreement with their American counterparts—doubt that an immediate breakthrough is likely because of the many technicalities involved.

Secrecy shrouds much of the detail of the latest exchanges

on the hostages but Iran's concern to find a speedy settlement could mean that its reply to the new American proposals will be ready in the next few days, possibly during Mr Christopher's visit to Algeria where he is having talks with Mr Muhammad Sodik Binyahia, the Foreign Minister.

Diplomats in Tehran regarded the Christopher mission as a positive sign, saying he would hardly travel to Algeria if Iran was still a long way from drawing up its response.

The main problem still appears to be Iran's demand for \$24,000m (about £12,000m) as a deposit to cover repayment of Iranian assets blocked in the United States and part of the late Shah's wealth.

Diplomatic sources say the United States has raised its offer to about \$8,000m and the gap may be narrowed when American efforts to help Iran locate other funds are taken into account.

Some signs of flexibility in the Iranian position have been detected by diplomats here, including more frequent references to the word "undertaking" instead of the harder edged "guarantee".

But it is believed that, if only for domestic political reasons, the Iranians feel they must achieve a final settlement which at least looks similar to their demands.—Reuter.

Tehran radio today scorned the "tough" policies of Presi-

dent-elect Reagan, who could inherit the task of securing the hostages' freedom.

Iranian authorities prepared their response to the latest American proposals, a radio commentary said. Mr Reagan's "slogan of militarism" meant he was doomed to meet the same ignominious fate as Presidents Nixon and Carter. This would happen, the state-owned radio said, because American imperialism was in the throes of decline in the face of growing liberation movements. The radio does not necessarily reflect government views.

Iranian politicians and commentators had said they did not care whether Mr Reagan or Mr Carter won last November's election but lately they have become increasingly hostile towards Mr Reagan and reacted violently to his saying that the captors of the hostages were barbarians.

Carter hope: President Carter said today that he believed his Administration's latest offer to Tehran was "fair" to both countries. (David Cross writes from Washington.)

He said he hoped that the long crisis would be resolved before he left office on January 20 but he could not make any predictions. "I don't want to raise any unwarranted expectations. Every time we had a favourable response from the Iranians, later on we're disappointed."

News analysis

Iran's counter-attack euphoria unjustified

By Drew Middleton
Military Affairs Correspondent
of The New York Times

Fighting in Iran has intensified as a result of a counter-offensive that President Bani-Sadr announced on Monday, but analysts in the United States and other Western countries say they find no basis for Iran's claims of great victories.

Some advances appear to have occurred, the analysts add. But they say that the main Iraqi positions around Ahvaz, capital of the oil-producing province of Khuzestan, and Abadan, have been held.

There is general agreement among the experts that Iran's attack is running out of steam. One Nato expert said that Iranian gains in Khuzestan were probably less important than the successful Iraqi invasion of the Iranian province of Kurdistan to the north.

The Iranian counter-offensive, according to Western analysts, was made possible by the careful concentration of regulars and Islamic Revolutionary Guards around Dezful at the northern end of the Khuzestan front.

Analysts, who at first discounted Iran's announcement of a counter-offensive, said on the basis of later information that elements of two or three armoured divisions employing British-made Chieftain tanks, supported by regular infantry and Revolutionary Guards, launched the main attack from the Dezful concentration area toward Susangerd and Ahvaz.

The Iraqis, who had been aware of an offensive since the Iranians had made no secret of their intentions, were well prepared for the attack, according to the analysts.

The Iraqis began to send Soviet-made MIG fighter-bombers over the battlefield to engage the advancing Iranians, whose air support was described as minimal.

Most of the fighting, the

analysts reported, was in what is called the Ahvaz corridor between that city and Dezful.

Their information, analysts said, does not confirm the Iranian claims that the counter-offensive wiped out two Iraqi brigades, killing 1,000 troops and taking 2,000 prisoners. Nor is there anything to verify Iranian reports that the Iraqi line is crumbling in Khuzestan.

Iraq says that its armoured and infantry forces have contained an Iranian attack around Susangerd and Ahvaz, and that it has fired from helicopter gunships and long-range artillery.

According to Nato analysts, Iran's counter-offensive has been only marginally successful for reasons that have plagued its forces since the start of the war. These, they said, are faulty or at times nonexistent communications between forward troops and headquarters, the absence of a coherent battle plan and political conditions that make surprise attacks virtually impossible.

The Iranians had talked about the coming counter-offensive for at least two weeks before it was launched, analysts pointed out, and Iraqi reconnaissance aircraft would have easily missed the movement of troops and supplies to the Dezful concentration area.

If the counter-offensive is put in its political context, analysts said, it is easy to understand. The Iranian leadership, put out by the Iraqis, Iraqi communiques, too, are exaggerated but those on the Iranian side are considered more fanciful.

Diplomats and military analysts agree that President Bani-Sadr needed a victory in the field to support his fight for power in Tehran. On Tuesday, he proclaimed the offensive a success and analysts in Washington and London believe his political future rests on the Iranian forces' ability to deliver a genuine victory rather than an illusory victory.

Iraq says it wiped out an entire armoured brigade

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, Jan 8

Iraq said today that Iranian losses during the past three days of fierce fighting were three times the size of losses Iran has suffered since the War started over three months ago.

An Iraqi communiqué said the Iraq forces "have turned Susangerd into a graveyard for the remaining Iranian forces". It said a whole Iranian armoured brigade was totally wiped out and 15 missile bases destroyed.

Mr Taha Yassin Ramadan, a member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, also said that the battles this week were "no less important than those in the first two days of the

war," which erupted last September 22. This was the first implicit admission by a senior Iraqi official of the Iranian counter-offensive, which Iran said its forces had launched at the beginning of the week.

Mr Ramadan, who is also commander of Iraq's paramilitary organisation called the People's Army, made the announcement in an address to armed units who were sent to reinforce the regular army fighting on the 300-mile front-line between Iraq and Iran.

In his speech, broadcast by Baghdad radio, Mr Ramadan said the fighting this week raged on from the front, especially around the Iranian town of Susangerd in the central sector of the front-line.

Namibia conference finally starts work

From Nicholas Ashford
Geneva, Jan 8

The pre-implementation conference on Namibia (South West Africa), sponsored by the United Nations, finally got down to work this afternoon. The question of the status of the internal parties has been resolved after almost 30 hours of intensive behind-the-scenes negotiations.

A formula was devised whereby the eight internal parties were able to be introduced separately at the start of a pre-conference agreement that the meeting should be between only two delegations—The South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) and a South African delegation led by Mr Pieter Botha, the Minister of Defence.

Mr Botha, though, the Administrator-General of the disputed territory, which included the internal parties.

This afternoon, Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary General, presided over a ceremony at which Mr Botha introduced representatives of the parties within his delegation, each member standing up when his name was called out.

However, Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, then responded by insisting that his delegation, which he pointed out was "one and united". To emphasise this point, the entire Swapo team simultaneously rose to their feet and gave clenched fist salutes.

From the point of view of the internal parties, they have managed to score a significant point by finally having themselves formally presented at the conference table. This should help to reassure their supporters and the white South African electorate, that they are not going to allow Swapo to run rings around them at Geneva. However their victory is in many respects a hollow one.

In terms of publicity and political point-scoring (which is what this morning has all about) there can be little doubt that whatever advantage the internal parties gained by this afternoon's declaration was overshadowed by Swapo's dramatic gesture of solidarity.

The conference has at last succeeded in bringing together members of opposing sides who had never met before. At a cocktail party last night, members of Swapo and internal parties mingled together over champagne and glass and tonic. Mr Nujoma was seen to shake hands with all the white members of the right-wing Afrikaner delegation.

Lietaert, former commander of the South African forces in Namibia, who was responsible for South African raids into southern Angola, chatted amicably to members of the Angolan observer team as well as to Swapo leaders.

"This is an even more remarkable than the Rhodesians talking to their terrorists at the Lancaster House conference," one South African official remarked.

'Buckeye three' dropped from white school roll

From Michael Leapman
Buckeye, Louisiana, Jan 8

A federal judge won the latest round here today in a bitter squabble with the state court over where three white girls should go to school. The three did not appear at Buckeye High School for classes this morning and Mr Charles Waites, the headmaster, said he was dropping them from the rolls.

They had been allowed to attend the all-white school for the first three days of the new term despite the decision by Mr Nauman Scott, the federal judge, that they had to go to a mixed-race school in Alexandria, 25 miles away. Mr Richard Lee, a state judge, had ruled that custody of the children could be transferred

to surrogate parents who lived in the Buckeye attendance zone.

On Tuesday and yesterday Mr Lee had gone to the school to instruct Mr Waites to let the girls in. Yesterday he said he would not be there today because he had been served an order by Mr Scott to appear in court next week to answer a charge of contempt of court.

Mr Waites said he would not admit the girls unless Mr Lee was there to make him do so. That is presumably why they were kept away today.

Announcing the dismissal of the girls with reluctance, Mr Waites made a passionate personal statement of support for their rights to attend his school. "The federal judges are running our schools and

I'm sick and tired of it," he said. "I'm ready to see our schools run by local boards."

Mr Scott, speaking out against the judicial system, believed they've been interpreting the Constitution wrongly. The dispute arises from a desegregation order issued by Mr Scott last August. Under it, about 100 pupils from Buckeye were assigned to a mixed-race school in Alexandria.

Rather than have them travel so far by bus, most parents, who insist that race is not the issue here, enrolled their children at a private school. Among them is Mr Waites, himself, whose 12-year-old son is now at a private school.

But the parents of "the Buckeye three", as they are



The tank in Cracow's main square is Russian and so are the uniforms but Poles are inside them. A British-made film biography of the Pope is being made there and this scene depicts the Soviet liberation of 1945.

Solidarity threatens to strike for Saturdays off

Gdansk, Jan 8.—The Independent Solidarity movement today said there could be strikes if any worker was dismissed for failure to work this Saturday.

The union's latest resolution declared a five-day 40-hour week in defiance of government policy that only every other Saturday should be free, and is even tougher than the original draft yesterday which left open the possibility of ending the boycott if the Government came up with acceptable alternatives.

Mr Karol Modzelewski, a Solidarity spokesman, accused the Government of attempting

to bring about a confrontation with the unions over the issue. He said the Ministry of Labour had issued instructions for managers to penalize workers who failed to report for work this weekend, the first designated working Saturday of the year.

"People must know that there may be strikes if any workers are sacked for not coming to work on Saturday," he said. The Government said it wanted to cooperate with Solidarity in resolving the issue of free Saturdays, and then proceeded to arbitrarily draft its own law, he added.

"Under the circumstances the Government is no longer

our partner but our opponent", Mr Modzelewski said.

The Solidarity spokesman spoke shortly after the Communist Party daily *Trybuna Ludu* appeared with a warning that there were signs of anarchy in the country. The newspaper attacked regional unions which are demanding the dismissal of unpopular communist officials, saying such actions demonstrated contempt for social norms and the elementary principles of democracy.

Today's meeting of Solidarity's national consultative commission also set up a special council charged with drawing up a programme of union activities and economic reforms.

The council, headed by Mr Andrzej Wielowiejski, an economist, includes scholars, lawyers and agricultural experts as well as Poland's leading dissident Mr Jacek Kuron.

Meanwhile, in the southern town of Ustrzyki Dolne, about 90 farmers and farm workers continued their occupation of a local government building in protest against harassment of union activists.

There was also a sit-in at nearby Rzeszow by workers supporting Ustrzyki Dolne, and also calling for the distribution of assets belonging to the now defunct official unions.—Reuter.

Minister warns of backlash if West Bank returned

From Christopher Walker
Kadunim, Occupied West Bank, Jan 8

Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli general and Minister with Responsibility for Settlements, said today that 200,000 Israelis would take to the streets to demonstrate against any attempt by a future Labour government to hand back part of the occupied West Bank to Jordan.

Israel officer refutes UN accusation

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Jan 8

The Israeli Lieutenant-colonel who led the last batch of Arab troops across the Lebanese border on Christmas Day strongly refuted a United Nations allegation that his men blew up the bodies of five terrorists they killed in an engagement.

The United Nations said a Dutch patrol reported the atrocity. The Israelis said they will protest to Mr Peter de Geus, the Dutch Defence Minister, who arrived today for talks. A meeting was also arranged between the Commander of the United Nations Forces in Lebanon, and General Avigdor Beagel, the Israeli commander on the northern frontier.

The field commander in the Christmas Eve chase, who was identified only by the pseudonym "Ofir" said today that his men piled up captured explosives, grenades and ammunition and blew them up. The soldiers turned over the bodies while they removed documents including two Al Fatah membership cards, but otherwise left the bodies where they fell.

He said he found them in the same position. Although some decayed, on December 29 when he returned with a unit to remove the bodies to Israel for burial, he dismissed as "rubbish" the United Nations report that his men had piled the bodies, "one on top of the other", and after sprinkling them with liquid applied an explosive charge.

The Dutch position in the area towered nearly 5,000 feet over Wadi Waz, where the encounter occurred, and there might have been an optical distortion, he said. A Dutch patrol had, indeed, appeared at the scene but returned to its base after inquiring what was to be done with the bodies.

ENGINEER YOURSELF A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

The Times Engineering Essay Competition For Students.

THE COMPETITION

All students are invited to write, in not more than 750 words, on "What I expect engineers to contribute in the next 30 years to our nation's prosperity".

To have a better chance of winning, entrants may find it helpful to get to know about past engineering achievements before applying their own lively and creative ideas about the future.

There is, of course, no limit on the number of entries that can be received from any sixth-form, university or polytechnic. It will greatly assist the Judges if all entries are easy to read.

THE PRIZES

SIXTH FORMS/COLLEGES

£500 to the winning pupil.

£500 to the winning pupil's school or college.

Two runners-up prizes of £200 to pupils only.

Five consolation prizes of The Times Atlas of the World, comprehensive Edition, and £50.

UNDERGRADUATES

£500 to the winning undergraduate.

Two runners-up prizes of £250.

Five consolation prizes of The Times Atlas of the World, comprehensive Edition, and £50.

All prizes will be presented at a special reception, the details of which will be announced later.

THE JUDGES

Lord Nelson of Stafford, Chairman, General Electric Company; Lord Scanlon, Chairman, Engineering Industry Training Board; Dr. Elizabeth Laverick, Deputy Secretary, Institution of Electrical Engineers; Joseph Moon, Director, Engineering Industry Training Board; Hugh Stephenson, Editor, Times Business News; Edward Townsend, Industrial Writer, Times Business News.

RULES

- The last date for entries is Saturday, 28th February, 1981.
- Entries should be sent to: The Times Engineering Essay Competition, Engineering Careers Information Service, c/o EITB, P.O. Box 176, 54 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 1HS.
- Entries must state clearly on a separate sheet of paper, to be attached at the top of each entry, which competition—Student or Undergraduate—is being entered. The entrant's full name and address, as well as the name and address of the School, College, University or Polytechnic, must also be given.
- All entries become the copyright of the organisers of the competition, Times Newspapers Ltd., and the Engineering Careers Information Service, who will reproduce (publish) any entry in whole or in part if they so wish.
- It is the responsibility of entrants to see that their entries arrive before the closing date.
- Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged.
- No correspondence regarding this competition can be entered into.
- The Judges' decision is final.

THE ENGINEERING CAREERS INFORMATION SERVICE:

ECIS was set up in 1976 and provides industry-based information about careers in the engineering manufacturing industry.

It is sponsored by the Engineering Industry Training Board, the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Ship-building and Engineering Unions.

Representatives of these organisations are members of its Steering Committee. Careers advisers and educationalists are also closely involved.

It produces literature and aids for young people and those who advise them on career choice. It also takes part in national and local exhibitions and conferences.

ECIS co-ordinates its work with other bodies in this field.

OVERSEAS

Wife of Moscow-based diplomat was used to smuggle icons and other relics out of Soviet Union

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Jan 8

Just over a year ago when the Soviet frontier guards at Brest boarded a train bound for West Berlin their suspicions were aroused by a woman's large suitcase. In it was a treasure trove of Russian antiques—church crosses and about 20 icons worth more than 91,000 roubles (about £25,000), including one icon worth more than 18,000 roubles.

The woman's husband was a diplomat in Moscow and was using her to smuggle out as much of Russia's heritage as he could acquire, confident that his diplomatic status would protect him.

The customs officers had been tipped off by Soviet detectives investigating a ring of icon smugglers who regularly sent antiques to a West Berlin gallery.

The day before she had picked up her goods in Moscow. Detectives watched her park her Mercedes near a taxi garage.

A taxi driver briskly loaded a suitcase into the boot of another car whose driver later handed him a 100-rouble tip in a Moscow sauna. The case of icons was given to the wife to take on the train.

Icon smuggling has become big business for organized crime in the Soviet Union. For many years after the 1917 revolution icons could be bought for a few loaves of bread and taken out of the country without trouble.

But in spite of atheistic disapproval of such religious

the drain of these works of art, many of which were several hundred years old.

Some years ago the regulations were tightened. Icons, Samovars and other pre-revolutionary objects were declared national treasures, not to be exported without permission from the Ministry of Culture.

Works of real artistic merit were refused an export licence outright. But valuable icons could be taken out only on payment of duty equivalent to 100 per cent of the price set by the ministry—irrespective of what the owner paid for it.

These laws have been increasingly flouted, especially by Arab, African and Third World diplomats. In their desire to cultivate good relations with developing countries, the Russians have long turned a blind eye to the black market dealings of many Third World diplomats in Moscow.

For example, they have been particularly harsh towards Westerners caught in currency speculation or smuggling. But although the icons go to the West, including several well-known galleries in London, Paris and New York, the Russians have usually been the diplomatic bag of a minor embassy.

Customs officers are now opening diplomatic baggage more often—a measure allowed under international convention only if there is good reason to suspect smuggling.

Several Third World diplomats were expelled for icon smuggling last year. In the past few months the Soviet customs have carried out rigorous inspections of baggage at everyone leaving the country

and since September even articles manufactured before 1975 have to be cleared in advance.

It is reliably reported that Soviet detectives and the KGB have begun a campaign to mark all known icons, churches, museums and large private collections with radioactive paint and as diplomatic baggage crosses the Soviet frontier, it is checked with a geiger counter.

As a warning to Russians trading in icons, a Soviet newspaper has published a long account of the trial of those involved in the West Berlin case. A man called Mikhail Yershov acted as a go-between for the gallery, scouring the countryside and villages, offering peasants a few roubles for their icons or trading Western watches supplied by the gallery.

He used a network of petty dealers to keep him supplied with whatever the gallery needed. Many of the icons were stolen from village churches. When Yershov was caught at the beginning of last year, police traced a masterpiece that had been missing for 40 years. It was stolen before the war and lay hidden in an attic. It was bought in 1976 for 15 roubles by Yershov for 50,000 roubles and valued by art experts at 370,000 roubles (£236,000). Yershov exchanged it for 20 lesser works which all made their way to the West. But the valuable St George icon was recovered by the state.

supplies and trading ties with the Gulf countries and Europe. At the same time Indonesia and Malaysia are important suppliers of raw materials including oil, rubber, lumber and tin. Essentially, Mr Suzuki will not present the leaders of Asean with any dramatic plan to provide the region with economic prosperity and political stability. He will however attempt to portray Japan, as the world's second largest industrial power and as a stable and reliable ally in Asia.

But Mr Suzuki will inform the leaders of Asean that Tokyo is not prepared to increase defence spending and thereby take a greater responsibility for the security of non-communist Asia, a step advocated by the United States, by Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore leader, and President Marcos of the Philippines.

In short Mr Suzuki will lay down a somewhat nebulous creed known as the Fukuda Doctrine as his foreign policy approach to South-East Asia.

"There are three pillars to our policy in South-East Asia. First, Japan does not intend to become a military power. Second, we will attempt to establish relations of mutual trust with all nations of South-East Asia. Third, even though we have frozen our aid to Vietnam we will continue to maintain relations with the nations of Indo-China with the hope that we can influence policy to some degree," one of the Prime Minister's advisers says.

The Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia enjoy a trade surplus with Japan while Singapore and Thailand have a trade deficit.

Leading article, page 11

Marxist group held by Turks

Ankara, Jan 8.—Fifty-one militants of the Parisian faction of the clandestine Turkish Communist Party-Marxist Leninist, have been arrested at the end of a two-month operation, the martial law authorities say.

They face charges of killing six people, armed robberies and bombings in Ankara over the past year, according to the military. A farmhouse belonging to a member of the group at Colaba, outside Ankara, revealed a large cache of arms—Reuters.

Anti-semitic acts at study centre

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Jan 8

Police here are investigating three anti-semitic incidents which have occurred at the famous Simon Wiesenthal Centre of Holocaust Studies in Los Angeles during the past few days.

The latest was on Wednesday when vandals defaced the side of the building with signs in paint that read: "Kill Jews". Mr Ronald Reagan, the President-elect, Governor Edmund Brown Jr and Mr Tom Bradley, Los Angeles Mayor, said today they were shocked at the vandalism and Mr Reagan described the acts as "an outrage to Americans".

On Tuesday a rabbi was hit in the arm and stained glass windows were broken by two youths armed with air guns.

On Sunday, two young men with heavy boots and wearing Nazi insignia made anti-Jewish remarks to a woman on duty at the centre's museum.

Gas cooker not to blame for Saudi air disaster

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

A hydraulic fluid fire which released toxic gas is now suspected to have caused the accident of a Saudi TriStar airliner at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, last August in which all 301 people on board died.

A burning gas cooker carried on board by the group of passengers had previously been suspected.

This is according to Flight International, which in its current issue, says that it has access to the cockpit voice recorder carried on the TriStar and exchanges between the crew and the control tower.

The magazine also discounts theories that the departure of an aircraft of the Saudi royal family was a factor in the loss of life.

According to the transcript, a call from the tower to clear

the runway of a vehicle for the royal flight came two minutes after the last call from the TriStar, and four minutes after the aircraft had taken off.

Flight International says that a number of safety points arise from the tragedy. There was no passenger briefing by the cabin staff, probably because of passenger panic and the apparent "negative panic" of the commander, or his reluctance to accept the seriousness of the situation.

The flight crew consulted the wrong checklist for the emergency landing, as well as the toxic gas. Residual cabin pressure may also have been a factor. The gas is likely to have killed everybody on board before the main fire.

The doors were not opened from the inside, perhaps because of fighting and the crash against them, as well as the toxic gas. Residual cabin pressure may also have been a factor. The gas is likely to have killed everybody on board before the main fire.

Boy's tanktop costs him seat on airliner

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Jan 8

A 17-year-old English schoolboy from Norham, Sussex, was not allowed to board a London-bound Qantas flight from Sydney airport last week because he was wearing a tanktop—a popular but casual clothing item—on the flight. Peter van der Borg had been on a short visit to Australia with his parents and four brothers, and was returning home on Saturday for the start of his college year.

Tokyo anxious to gain confidence of Asean

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Jan 8

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, making his first overseas visit since he assumed office, arrived in the Philippines today to consolidate Japan's growing ties with the region's most coherent economic alliance, the five member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

In contrast to his predecessors, who made their overseas debut in Washington, Mr Suzuki is travelling to the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand to demonstrate his country's solid support for the group of non-communist nations of South-East Asia, officials say.

First, Mr Suzuki will establish how he can help lay down a solid economic foundation in the area—Tokyo's prerequisite for political stability.

Mr Suzuki is also likely to assure the leaders of Asean of continued support for their diplomatic front against Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea.

At present Japan has frozen its aid to Vietnam and supports Asean's resolution in the United Nations General Assembly calling for supervised free elections in Kampuchea. He will also affirm that his new Administration will refuse to recognize Mr Heng Samrin's regime in Phnom Penh.

Although the United States remains the pivot of Tokyo's foreign policy, it is abundantly clear why Mr Suzuki wants to consolidate ties with the relatively prosperous Asean nations. In the first place, the Straits of Malacca are vital to Japan's oil

Nigerians keep diplomatic links with Libya

From Our Correspondent
Lagos, Jan 8

Nigeria officially made it clear today that it has not broken diplomatic relations with Libya nor expelled the Libyan Embassy.

What has done Professor Ishaka Aduke, the Foreign Minister, explained at a press conference is to request those Libyans who took over the embassy on Monday and transformed it into a "People's Bureau" to leave the country.

He also spoke out against the recently announced merger between Libya and Nigeria's own neighbour, Chad. Such a proposal was "most unfortunate and indeed premature," he said. An official statement said that only "a new and freely elected Government" in Chad could have a mandate to embark on negotiations for any sort of association.

Other passengers, who had paid a lot of money, would have to sit beside him.

It is reprehensible the way they dealt with him," Mrs Luscombe said. Her nephew offered to buy a T-shirt in England, but she was told again that he could not travel on the aircraft.

After the incident, the boy telephoned his parents and aunt, holidaying on the New South Wales central coast and later joined them.

A Qantas spokesman said last night that the airline was extremely sorry and had responded by refunding out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the delay. "We do have minimum dress standards, but problems should be detected at an earlier stage."

Beneath the bustling economic activity of Indonesia, there is an undercurrent of political tension largely unknown to the hundreds of Japanese, European and American business people who are avidly seeking to exploit the current "boom" atmosphere of this oil-rich developing country.

During a visit to Jakarta last summer, Mr David Rockefeller, president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, publicly described Indonesia as one of the most stable countries in the Pacific area, and one which should be a magnet for foreign investors.

To those who follow political events from the inside, however, the situation appears to be one of increasingly high tension, as the country moves towards parliamentary elections this year and presidential elections next year.

The reasons for this tension are several, but high on the list is the blatant corruption of government officials, allegedly including Vice-President Adam Malik and the wife and children of President Suharto, who is expected to stand for a third five-year term.

Corruption exists at all levels throughout the heavily overstaffed and inefficient government, but particularly in the offices and ministries involved in awarding lucrative contracts to foreign suppliers.

Corruption also extends throughout the system of higher education, where allocations to faculties of engineering, medicine and economics—popular fields because of the strong demand for graduates—is often arranged by bribes of up to \$m rupiah (£3,500) by parents eager to see their offspring well-placed. An exception is the much respected Technological Institute of Bandung, an engineering and technical university which so far has successfully resisted pressures to admit sons and daughters of high-ranking persons.

But payments of this order are considered small stuff in the present atmosphere in Jakarta, where new cars, including Mercedes costing over £16,000, choke the streets, and where high-rise air-conditioned

buildings overlook squalid shacks and fetid canals which are nothing more than open sewers. One general in an expensive mood recently boasted of having received \$300,000 (\$333,000) from a French source for the award of an important project.

That's nothing, scoffs an informed Indonesian. "Much larger payments are made—and they are not secret either, since people here always boast about how much money they are making from 'development'."

Another source of tension is the growing power of the right wing of the Partai Persatuan Pembangunan (PPP), or United Development Party, a coalition of Islamic groups. Although more than 70 per cent of Indonesia's population is Muslim, the governments of both former President Sukarno and of President Suharto have resisted demands from traditionalist sectors to establish Islam as the state religion.

Since the rise of militant Islamic fundamentalism in Iran and elsewhere, the Government of Indonesia has attempted to counter-balance such pressures through increased homage paid to the Pancasila, or Five Principles, which form the official state ideology. Every middle and higher-level government official, including university professors, is required to attend a two-week seminar on the meaning of the Five Principles.

"I put it off as long as I could," confided a respected professor of economics. "But now they tell me that I have to go to the next one. Otherwise my career is finished."

The same official reported after the seminar, which lasted eight hours a day, six days a week, that one of the topics discussed was whether the constitution of Indonesia forbade a person from standing for the presidency a third time.

This points to the third and most important source of political tension. President Suharto has held effective power since 1967, when Indonesia began its slow rise from the chaos of an attempted communist coup and the orgy of killings which

occurred during the counter-revolution, in 1965 and 1966.

Economic progress since those times has been considerable. Inflation was brought down from more than 600 per cent to about 15 per cent a year. In the 1979-1980 fiscal year, the country enjoyed a balance-of-payments surplus for the first time. A middle class has been emerging as economic activity increases. Expenditure on food has fallen on average from a 1969 record of 77 per cent of household income to a 1978 level of 65.5 per cent.

Non-food consumer spending has increased. Emphasis on mass education has resulted in an increase in the number of children in primary schools from 65 per cent in 1973 to 94 per cent in 1980. Rural health clinics are now to be found in many areas previously without health services. Family planning has lowered fertility rates, though overcrowding, especially on the island of Java, remains a big problem.

But economic progress has left most of the rural poor and urban slum-dwellers as badly off or worse off as they were 10 years ago. Recent figures on income distribution disclose an apparent decline in real income for the poorest 40 per cent of Indonesia's 135 million

people. This has dismayed many of the dedicated planners, economists and other technocrats who are at the forefront of the development effort.

In part they see this phenomenon as reflecting the difficulty of devising ways of reaching the poor with aid. But they also blame a growing preoccupation on the part of high officials with lining their own pockets, and with leaving the conduct of business to ill-trained and inexperienced juniors.

Finally, many Indonesian intellectuals and civil servants are disturbed by the apparent reluctance of President Suharto to relinquish power. He'll be President until the year 2000," one well-known artist said. His companion joined in: "He's a good man, really. But he's too useful to those who are making money. They'll never let him go."

Open political discussions are no longer possible, as they were during the early days of the regime. After riots early in 1974, during which the Government's future was in doubt for several days, a press crackdown commenced which has now been extended to films, television, and the foreign press. It is not unusual to find articles in foreign newspapers and magazines thickly doctored with black printer's ink, when the censors have judged that they show the Government in an unfavourable light. Local news tends to be self-censored.

Isolated incidents of violence involving troops seem to indicate that tensions can reach breaking point. When the former rector of the Technological Institute of Bandung appeared unwilling or unable to curb political activity on the campus, his house was shot on one night by a detachment of soldiers. The rector quickly resigned. Recently the Indonesian legal aid society complained of threats and intimidation directed at two of its leading lawyers, and military men have beaten up and severely injured Hadji Fatwa, the Muslim scholar.

A recent order from Muham-

mad Yusuf, the Minister of Defence, requires all government employees to receive military training. This is coupled with an attempt by special military squads to confiscate illegally-held firearms from civilians. There are said to be several thousand such arms in the hands of the population.

Several months ago 50 of the country's most prominent citizens, including the very popular former Governor of Jakarta, Ali Sadikin, and a hero of the liberation movement, General Nasution, signed a letter to Parliament complaining of alleged abuses of power by the President. The rights of the signers have been curtailed, none may travel overseas or work for the Government, and all are under surveillance.

The strategic importance of Indonesia to the West is undeniable. Lying between the Asian land mass and Australia and New Zealand, this country—the fifth largest in the world by population—has been known as a staunch friend of the West since the coming of the Suharto Government.

But the tensions present in most developing nations are exacerbated here by the immense gulf between the very rich and very poor. A taxi driver, who must work long hours to make a few dollars, enjoys no social benefits of any kind, pauses at a traffic light and watches while a cavalcade of limousines roars down a main thoroughfare, sirens screaming.

He turns to his passenger, and uncharacteristically for a Javanese, offers a comment. "That is where the money goes," he says. "But the little people know that! The little people know!"

If the history of other Asian political regimes is an example, the stability of the Suharto Government would appear to be much less certain than either Mr David Rockefeller or the foreign business community suspect.

A Special Correspondent

Bolivia: A land of repression

Five months after its latest military coup, Bolivia has taken on an air of unremitting normality. The streets of La Paz, a mountain city nearly 12,000ft up in the Andes, are full of bustle during the day and most people have returned to work.

But the atmosphere changes at night as the approach of 11 pm makes it too late to get home before the curfew begins. From then until 6 am the streets are virtually empty except for detachments of armed soldiers, and then La Paz looks like an occupied city.

The reason for the surface calm, in fact, is that the policy of repression has been effective. The leaders of the political parties and the trade unions, many of them seized on the day of the coup, July 17, have gone into exile; and those that remain are in hiding.

Arrested demonstrations are no longer taking place on the scale of the first two months after the coup, when there was widespread torture and killing. But people are still taken in for questioning, and the policy of intimidation makes those that most of the population keep their heads down.

There are only about five million Bolivians, living in a country which is large by European standards. Part of it lies in the Andean highlands and part in the tropical lowlands which border Brazil. It is a potentially rich country, with good agricultural land in the lowlands and vast mineral resources.

But over the years it has become known for the frequency of its military coups and for the overall poverty and backwardness of its people of whom more than half are pure Indians.

In recent years there has been a determined attempt, strongly backed by the Carter Administration in Washington, to establish a democratic system. This culminated in an election last year, as a result of which Señor Hernan Siles Zúñiga, leader of a leftist coalition, was expected to be elected President by Congress.

Before that could happen, however, the Bolivian armed forces took over, in what was clearly a carefully planned coup. The fact that it was so successful, unlike the previous year, is attributed to the fact that it had backing from the Argentine military Government, which sent advisers.

One reason for the coup was military distaste for the prospect of a civilian government, particularly a leftist one. Another reason, put forward by many Bolivians and officials in Washington, was to protect the interests acquired by leading members of the armed forces in the lucrative business of drug trafficking.

Bolivia is a large producer of coca, used to make cocaine. In the past few years coca has become a large, though illicit, part of the Bolivian economy. There are estimates that it brings hundreds of millions of dollars into the country each year, or up to half the value of Bolivia's official exports.

Large quantities of coca leaves are grown and transported across the country, usually to the Santa Cruz area,

in the lowlands, where there are several small runways from which to fly them out of the country. Some go in leaf form, some are processed in Bolivia.

This is a large operation and could not be carried out without at least the complicity of the authorities. The belief is that some members of the armed forces are not just conniving at the traffic, but taking an active part themselves.

The United States has still not re-established normal relations with Bolivia since the coup, and has cut off aid through the Bolivian Government hopes for a change after Mr Ronald Reagan takes office. Britain and other European countries are also taking a hands-off attitude.

There has been pressure from fellow members of the Andean Pact, which includes Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. The extent of the disapproval of Bolivia's northern neighbours was shown when President Luis García Meza was not invited to celebrations in December of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the death of Bolívar in Colombia.

In reaction President García announced that Bolivia would leave the Andean Pact. But the Bolivian government has not so far carried out that threat.

Inside Bolivia, there is opposition to the present regime from "constitutionalists" and members of the armed forces, though they have been removed from positions of influence, and an attempt at a counter-coup in November failed.

There has also been criticism of the July coup and its aftermath from the Church, itself regarded as altogether too leftist by many military men and a target for repression.

The regime has proved stronger, however, than many of its opponents had hoped. In its defence, officials maintain that the armed forces moved in to end the disturbances during the period leading up to the elections, and make the remarkable claim that because there is now no open opposition the regime is based on consensus.

The better known political leaders and trade unionists have been released from custody and expelled. But though the regime denies holding any political prisoners, a number of people are believed to be still held.

The main challenge which the military Government now faces is an economic one. The Bolivian economy has been running down and the country is heavily in debt. The latest instalment of a loan from the International Monetary Fund was not made available because the fund's requirements had not been met.

The Government has said that it will take the sort of unpopular measures that are required—the raising of the price of petrol, for instance, and the removal of food subsidies. But measures to bring the economy in, presumably for fear of disturbances and uncertainty over its own ability to control them.

Peter Stratford

Student duelling returns to Heidelberg



A gathering of a student fighting fraternity, complete with pillbox hats and frocked jackets and, below, student duellers of the past.

Passers-by in a Heidelberg square one sunny morning could not believe their eyes. There in the heart of the romantic old city were students with unbuttoned pillbox hats, velvet frocked jackets, colourful sashes and thighboots sitting at long wooden tables, inviting them to join them in a beer.

It might have been a scene from *The Student Prince*. But it was real. After being swept out of the universities by the student protest movement of 1968 the *Verbindungen*, the German student fraternities, are creeping back again.

With them come some memories of one of the most romantic, yet controversial, traditions Germany has known: duelling.

Those who went misty-eyed at the music of *The Student Prince* will remember the bright uniforms, the carousing and the pranks of the days when being a student was far more important than actually studying.

War-time films spread the image of the "bad" German, the cruel Nazi or the granite-hard industrialist with deep, sinister scars on his face. The marks, once a status symbol but now sneered at, bore witness to the duels in his student days.

Drinking was legendary even by German standards. Young *Verbindung* members were compelled to down beer after beer in a kind of military drill until they learnt to stay on their feet while blind drunk.

The old boy system, the flags, the rectorial tables, the jargon, the customs and the particular brand of all-male companionship had a strong whiff of the English public school. But from the impeccable social manners they cultivated to the crude beer-swilling they loved, they were indelibly German.

The *Verbindungen* all but disappeared when the 1968 student movement set out to rid the universities of "the mould of 1,000 years". Any student

who dared to show himself in a pillbox hat or even with the narrow everyday ribbon across his chest was derided as something from the prehistoric past.

Some had to close completely. The richly-endowed fraternities in university towns were often almost empty. Some abolished duelling, one of their most criticised activities, others took up karate instead.

But in the past year or two groups of students in hats and ribbons have been seen strolling unashamedly in the streets of university towns. Fraternities are delightfully reporting a steady increase in would-be members.

It is not nostalgia, it seems, but life in modern universities that is driving students back to fraternity life. Lonely youths are seeking warmth and comradeship, others a cheap and congenial room which is often hard to get, yet others hope for help from members in the difficult business of getting a job.

In return they have to accept that membership of the fraternities is for life. Even after they leave they have to join in frequent social events, give money and help younger members to find their place in the world.

If they join a *Schlagende Verbindung* (fighting fraternity) they are also obliged to fight with razor-sharp swords at least twice a year. The custom originally designed to teach a student to defend himself if assaulted, for instance, by an officer, has now devolved to a curious ritual.

Heavily padded and with metal goggles to protect their

eyes they do not fence but stiffly hack at each other, five blows each per round, 30 rounds in a fight. Any sign of cowardice brings shame on the fraternity and another fight as a penalty.

The only real danger is a cut on the face now carefully stitched but in the past widened so the scar was deep and visible.

Members have difficulty explaining why they do it. Few say they enjoy duelling, most dislike it and confess they are scared. They say outsiders cannot understand what it means. It is a sign of belonging, a commitment.

Apart from rare exceptions women are not allowed to join. In fighting fraternities duelling is the reason, others have a variety of explanations which make psychologists suspect the revival is purely a subconscious escape flight from emancipated girl students.

Reluctance to admit women is only one sign of what is fundamentally a conservative institution. It originated 165 years ago as a political movement for German unity and old values—comradeship, life-long fellowship, honour, freedom and the fatherland—dominate their statutes.

The revival is still small. Whereas about two thirds of the student population used to belong to fraternities, at present only about 40,000 of the one million students are members.

And the new generation of *Verbindungsmänner* are toning down the traditions. They claim they do not drink any more than an average student, duelling is kept to a minimum and the once time-consuming social activities have been drastically cut.

With slender means, a limit to the time he can spend at the university and the need to compete desperately for a dwindling number of jobs, today's student has to keep his nose in his books. The days of the student prince are over.

Patricia Clough

THE ARTS

Retrospective on a vigorous enemy of society

Yilmaz Güney season
National Film Theatre

The Stunt Man (X)

Classics Haymarket,
Oxford St., Chelsea,
Hendon; Odeon,
Swiss Cottage

The Turkish cinema—which boasts a prodigious production of apparently awful melodrama for local consumption—labours under the considerable handicap that its best director, biggest star and only artist of international standing has, since 1975, been serving a 15-year jail sentence for killing a judge in a café brawl. Since then, however, Yilmaz Güney has continued to write detailed shooting scripts for films that are realized, in Güney's own manner, by his local associate Zeki Ökten. *The Herd*, a film made under these conditions, won the Grand Prix at the 1979 Locarno Festival and the British Film Institute award in the same year; another, *The Enemy* (1980), won the London Film Festival last year. Now the National Film Theatre is to present, between next Tuesday and January 30, a ten-film retrospective of Güney's best work.

Born in 1937, Güney worked his way through university as a labourer, and in 1958 was writer-actor on the film *Children of the Earth*. A handsome man, with tough, virile features which manage to blend warmth with rock-like resolution, he quickly became a top star in 40 or more of the cheap action pictures that are the staple of Turkish film production.

When he came to direct his own pictures—the earliest in the NFT season is *Children of the Earth*, made in 1963—he used the lessons he had learned in telling stories through fast and exciting action. He brought enough new qualities to his films, however, in the way of social criticism, to attract unfavourable attention from the reactionary quarters of the official Turkish establishment.

Güney's films all in one way or another expose a society of economic inequality and backward social structures, where by tradition women are exploited and suppressed, where there is a constant undefined opposition between proletariat and authority, where such destructive cultural legacies as blood feuds still hold sway.

It is characteristic of the dark social vision of Güney's films that his heroes often prefer apparently desperate alternatives to the wretched role allotted to them in organized society. Thus the leading characters in *The Father* (1971) and *The Poor Ones* (1974-75) both choose a goal in preference to starvation conditions in the outside world. In *Angels* (1974), a poor cotton worker sells his daughter to get a little money. In *The Enemy* (1980) the hero accepts a humiliating job poisoning stray dogs whose lot seems in fact much the same as his own.

The hero-group of *Elegy* (1971), which was shown to the press this week, are smugglers and outlaws who look like close cousins to the lost bandits of Bunuel's *L'Age d'Or*. They have abandoned the place and killed or driven off its inhabitants.

Güney himself plays the leader of this band of instinctive revolutionaries, who are eventually annihilated by legal society—though not before they have established moral and political links with a woman doctor of the locality. This woman, as Hans Stempel and Martin Ripken's document, *Portrait of Yilmaz Güney*, points out, is the only female in the film.

This documentary, which is also in the season, includes a long interview with Güney in his island prison. Apparently resigned, and industriously writing out, Güney talks persuasively and optimistically about the didactic potential of the cinema in bringing about



political education of the Turkish masses. *Freebie and the Bean* was a messy comedy-thriller with Alan Arkin and James Caan as cheerfully corruptible cops. Since then not much has been heard of Güney until *The Stunt Man*.

As early as 1971 it was announced that he was making a film of that title; and presently it was the same project,

since Paul Brodeur's novel, on which it is based, had come out the previous year. In fact, however, the film was not completed until seven years later; and even then it lingered on the shelf for a couple of years before the distributors decided what to do with such an oddity. It was eventually released, in an extravagant reviews from the smart set of

Elliot Gould as an over-age college radical; *Freebie and the Bean* was a messy comedy-thriller with Alan Arkin and James Caan as cheerfully corruptible cops. Since then not much has been heard of Güney until *The Stunt Man*.

As early as 1971 it was announced that he was making a film of that title; and presently it was the same project,

Yilmaz Güney in *Elegy*, leader of a group of smugglers and outlaws "who look like close cousins to the lost bandits of Bunuel's *L'Age d'Or*"

American film critics, who tend to be pushovers for the sort of metaphorical, symbolical, psychological and generally Meaningful pretensions that characterize this anecdote.

To be fair, the film has a *panache*—in the telling of the tale and the vivid visual style as well as a saving grace of humour—that keeps it going, most of the way, as an entertainment. The opening swiftly establishes its atmosphere of mystery and anxiety: a bearded, handcuffed fugitive stumbles into the shooting of a perilous film stunt, and causes the death of the stunt man.

He is thereupon taken up by the Mephistophelean film director, who secretes him from the police and metamorphoses him, by means of a shave and hair-dye, into both beauty as well as recklessness. The stunt man who falls into a tempestuous affair with the leading lady. The stage is thus set for a (finally rather inconclusive) battle between the three of them, for the young man's body and soul.

Peter O'Toole plays the director who uses a camera-cane to descend from the skies, a ciresome *deus ex machina*, to intervene in the affairs of the lesser beings in his microcosmic film crew. O'Toole, who once seemed to possess every advantage an actor could hope for, has now definitely abandoned acting for mannerism, forcing his face and his diction into a bizarre, overdone impersonation of Charles Laughton (or maybe it is Bette Davis).

The Stunt man himself is Steve Railsback, who starts off in the character as if it were an extension of his one-time film personification of Charles Manson, but then gives a lot of interest to the boy's groping incomprehension and spasmodic anger. The girl is Barbara Hershey, who at one time changed her name to Sessall and has always had difficulties in giving firm definition to the characters she plays. A score of credited stunt men live things up with an intermittent circus.

David Robinson

● *Sitting Ducks*, which opened at the ICA yesterday, is also running at the Paris Pullman for an indefinite season.

Literary flair makes absorbing ballet

Copenhagen

It is more than four years since the Royal Danish Ballet visited New York, and even longer since it was last in London. Admittedly in 1980 the company staged a Bournonville festival in Chicago and large numbers of British and American enthusiasts and critics attended the Copenhagen festival for Bournonville towards the end of 1979.

As a result, to judge from recent Anglo-American reports, the Royal Danes would appear to be dancing the works of their nineteenth-century master, August Bournonville, and absolutely nothing else. Untrue. At present there is no Bournonville in the repertoire, which is dominated by *Ein Sommernachtsdrom* and Erik Bruhn's new staging of *Giselle*.

Ein Sommernachtsdrom is a full-evening ballet by the American choreographer John Neumeier, which I saw at its premiere by the Hamburg Ballet in 1977 when it was called *Ein Sommernachtsdrom*. Most Shakespearean scholars would know it better as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. At his best Neumeier lacks for nothing in choreographic invention, but whether at his best or his worst his ballets often have a strange literary cast to them. Sometimes it even seems that he regards ballet as a means of making annotations and comments to music and literature. When this strangely eclectic method comes off, it can be a dramatic experience; when it does not it appears oddly flat and pretentious.

In *A Midsummer Night's Dream* it comes off with the flair of fireworks coruscating in a midnight sky. It is intellectually absorbing, musically bizarre but fascinating, while the choreography has a sweep and confidence that would amaze all but the most rigid of Neumeier's many American detractors. It sets the ballet in a world of rutilant romance, except for the supernaturalists who wear space underwear. The music is a mixture of Mendelssohn, for the lovers, electronic music by György Ligeti for the fairies and traditional organ-grinder music for the clowns.

It is also the sexiest version of the story I have ever seen, with, as example, a slitheringly sensual duet for Titania and Oberon, cransomgrilled by the very even relationship between Oberon and Puck seems uncommonly warm. Incidentally, Neumeier follows the precedent of Peter Brook's staging of the play by combining the roles of Oberon and Theseus, Hippolyta and Titania, and Puck and Philostrate. Despite the fact that the two characters are mad jealousies found in this fairy kingdom, both the clowns and the lovers, in their disparate ways, are truly funny, and the device of a mechanical organ played on stage for the "mechanicals" is theatrical genius.

In some ways the Danes perform the ballet better than did the original cast: it is a company uncommonly strong in mimes and character dancers. Johnny Eliassen, the beautiful Linda Homberg and, in his best role to date, Frank Andersen, were spirited and spiritual as Oberon, Titania and Puck. Tøben Jeppesen made an eccentrically dominating figure as Bottom, and with Neumeier's introduction of a clown, Fredbjørn Bjørnsen among the clowns, who could go wrong?

In contrast, Bruhn's new *Giselle* is understandably and properly conventional. It has very romantic settings by Desmond Heeley, uses the John Lanchbery adaptation of the Adam music and makes the peasant *pas de deux* into a *pas de quatre*. Two original touches are the introduction of old people into the first act to keep Giselle's mother company, and having Bathilde and Myrtha played by the same dancer.

The ballet was decently danced by Anne Villumsen as a fairly dashing Albrecht, and a young corps de ballet girl, Ann Kristen Hauge, sweetly wraithlike as Giselle. And what a pleasure to see the commanding presence of the company's director, Henning Kronsmann, in the main role of the Prince of Courland. Ideally generals should always lead their armies from the front.

Clive Barnes

Cold Chips

Thames

Michael Church

The pleasures to be had from watching television are many and various, but one which currently seems in short supply is that of watching a big commercial company take creative risk. There is of course plenty of safe gambling on exportable films strudded with starry names, and one can still stumble upon the occasional inspired one-off like Granada's *All-American Girl*. *Nite Show*, but it is rare for a risk to be built into the structure.

Take Six is the name of an interesting and imaginative risk taken by Thames and masterminded by the producer, Udi Eichler: a documentary series offering directorial debuts to a handful of folk who might not otherwise have got the chance. Eichler has apparently defined his role as helping people do their thing, talking problems through with them but refusing to become a *prime mover*.

Cold Chips, which was last night's inaugural contribution, represented two debuts: a directorial one for Laurens Postma, who recently graduated from the London International Film School, and one for Tim Thomas as a television entertainer.

Purportedly a didactic piece of light entertainment about the future, this show did not really work, but the fault lay less in

the material than in its treatment. Thomas, whose new one-man show opens at the Young Vic tonight, incidentally, is a refreshingly funny and original performer, but he needs to be surrounded by a still space in which to weave his spell. This collaboration all but drowned in sub-Kenny Everett gimmickry and it exploited Thomas's protean gifts in a way that was often for no reason other than hysterical to hold the attention. A few well-aimed prods from a producer—sharpen this, cut that, clear away the clutter—would, alas, have done wonders. The next two programmes in the series, of which I have seen previews, are both unusual. *Act of God*, directed by Peter Greenaway, is a compilation of interviews with people who have been struck by lightning. Those who do not like it will dismiss it as being, inconsequently, those who will appreciate its stylish weirdness.

King's Head, directed by the film editor Jeremy McCracken, is a deft portrait of London's leading eatery, pub and theatre, a stylish risk-taking nature of the enterprise underlying it. One of the most striking things about this splendid establishment is the fierce loyalty of those who regularly work, eat, drink or perform there. McCracken's film explains why this should be.

Afterwards come programmes on junior ballroom dancing, bawdy hen parties, tabloid images of the female body, and on life in a children's ward in Great Ormond Street. Worth keeping tabs on.

Rien ne va plus

Tricycle

Irving Wardle

Interested readers of this week's *Sunday Times* feature on "The Godfather" of the Riviera may pursue the story to 269 Kilburn High Road, where the gangland massacres linked with the name of Tony "Mr X" Zampa take an even gristlier turn: namely an attempted takeover of the Palais Casino, Nice, which has reduced that erstwhile haunt of the British upper crust to a desolate shell picked over for the past two years by militant croupiers.

I owe that information more to the programme note than to Pip Simmons's text and production, which announces that its characters bear no resemblance to any persons living or dead, while also claiming that "the words are in almost every case those spoken by the actual people involved".

Nobody has decided whether the show is to be a fable or a documentary; so we start off with a picture of the fatuous

British lordling it along the Promenade des Anglais in the 1920s before being fleeced at the gaming tables; and then much of the same with the ill-fated "graft" chourning the "Marseillaise" and hurling defiance at the hoodlums' efforts to "destroy our reputation for honest trading".

Narrative logic never was Mr Simmons's strongest point; but in every other respect I found this show an unexpected delight. Played against a silver doorway framed with ported palms, the whole thing works by bold colour contrasts. It is, for instance, a great moment when the four white-trousered British exit to kill themselves like gentlemen (revolvers respectfully served on a silver plate), and instantly return as black-suited mafiosi. Likewise the transformation of Sheila Burnett from a grey-uniformed page into a scarlet-gartered emblem of the new regime.

The company of six excel in quick-change caricature, whether as toothy British pleasure-seekers or as the "boys from Organzola" whose menace is much heightened by their butterball grins and courteous manners.

HENRY JAGLOM'S
Sitting Ducks
A FILM ABOUT SEX, MONEY AND VIOLENCE
"A brilliantly quirky comedy of modern manners"
Derek Malcolm, Guardian
OPENING THE NEW
ICA
ALSO AT
Paris Pullman

Book review

The Bedside Guardian
Edited by W. L. Webb
(Collins, £5.95)The Sunday Times
Bedside Book
Edited by George Darby
(André Deutsch, £6.50)

Anthologizing newspapers and putting the results between hard covers every year is about as painless a form of publishing as it is possible to imagine. This is a charmingly chatty introduction by Shirley Williams and actually bothers to identify each piece with a date. When the article is a book review one is told the title and author and there is an index at the back with the contributors listed in alphabetical order. There's none of this in *The Sunday Times* offerings, just a contents list and a line under the title which says "The best of contemporary writing from one of the world's great newspapers".

The *Guardian* anthology, in other words, can make a legitimate claim to being what one might describe as a book. *The Sunday Times* one looks as if a pile of old cuttings was sent off to André Deutsch in a taxi one day, printed up and returned with a blurb which is so fulsome that even for a blurb it takes the biscuit: "shrewdest... best informed... liveliest... quite simply the best... undoubtedly Britain's best newspaper." The *Guardian* indulges in such superlatives. Indeed Mrs. Williams remarks only "The *Bedside Guardian* is a better bedtime than many you may meet. As for *The Guardian* itself, querulous, and all, it does get you through the week." Some of *The Sunday Times* articles come from the colour magazine but there are no colour photographs. Indeed neither book has photographs, just a few pocket cartoons. All the emphasis is on the writing. *The Guardian* opens with Simon Hoggart on Denis Thatcher. *The Sunday Times* with Russell Miller on Henry. *The Sunday Times* team includes long serving regulars such as Lewis Chester, Geoffrey Smith, Derek Jewell, and Frank Giles as well as identifiable *Sunday Times* people whose reputation relies as much on books (Jilly Cooper) or TV (Michael Parkinson), as

their journalism. They also have Roy Fuller, Tina Brown, now editor of *The Tatler*, Anthony Holden now with *The Observer*, and Angela Carter, whom I had always thought of as the very model of a *Guardian* person, though she is not in the *Guardian* anthology so I am obviously mistaken.

The *Guardian* feels a little less like an all-star invitation list and more like a team of John Arlott, James Cameron, Alex Hamilton, Nancy Banks-Smith, Simon Hoggart, and Jill Tweedie are among the regulars and (relative) outsiders—Bernard Crick and E. P. Thompson along with them are the sort of people whose point of view and style sits well with those of the staff contributors. Even though Thompson has a lengthy disagreement with Peter Jenkins over nuclear disarmament, it is clear that they are both on the same side of the fence, really.

No writer features in both books, though James Fenton who was in *The Guardian* last year is in *The Sunday Times* (and much better on "Amadeus" at the National, than he was on German democracy). Some subjects crop up in both places (Reagan, the Olympics, Afghanistan and Thatcherism), though considering that both are based on British national newspapers reporting on the same year the difference in subject matter is surprising. Foreign reporters from both newspapers returned to survey the aftermath of Pol Pot in Phnom Penh (which *The Guardian* spells without the first "h"). *The Sunday Times* visited Rampton, *The Guardian* went to Walton and Britain's prison. Bernard Levin hated "Evie" in *The Sunday Times*, and Michael Billington, in *The Guardian* enjoyed the Royal Court "Hamlet". Both have time for nature notes of a sort ("Good weather for breaking in new boots" *Guardian*; "Homeward bound on Friday night, I drive from Chesham along a Roman road" *Sunday Times*).

Of the two I prefer *The Guardian* book, not just because it is so much better organized and presented, but also because, pace the *ST*'s blurb writer, it is so much better written. A matter of taste, perhaps, but on this evidence *The Guardian* has a shrewdness and originality which I missed in *The Sunday Times*. A little humility as well.

Tim Heald

Matumbi

The Venue

Richard Williams

Reggae music has made enormous strides over the past decade, but its advance has been slowed by the difficulty with which it has adapted itself to live performance. It must be remembered that reggae has always been bred primarily in the recording studio, and while this has little effect on Jamaican musicians, who are rarely called upon to perform before an audience, British reggae artists are expected to make regular appearances and have had, in a sense, to invent their own language for the purpose.

Matumbi, a young London band who have worked together since 1971, are still learning the lessons. Apart from the American soul tradition, which has some application in this respect, their only real exemplars when it comes to concerts are the Waiters, for whom Bob Marley successfully annexed some aspects of rock performance, and Burning Spear, whose Winston Rodney makes his impact through sheer presence.

At the moment, Matumbi have no such obvious qualities. Their assets include Dennis Howell, the composer and guitarist who is perhaps the most imaginative young record producer in Britain (his work with Linton Kwesi Johnson, The Pop Group and Janet Kay has been consistently stimulating), some mildly attractive songs, a solid command of the idiom and a comports good nature.

On the other hand, too many of their songs deal with well-worn subjects (Zimbabwe, the "sun" law) in a manner which suggests they have nothing new to contribute to the discussion, and their performance on Wednesday night was, for the most part, unduly diffident in the face of a muted but approving audience. Reggae as a whole is not noted for its love of contrast, but they might have made more emphatic use of their flugelhornist and trombonist, while Webster Johnson, who plays keyboards, did enough to suggest that he might profitably be given more scope.

The singing of Bevin Fagan and Claiester Venn was pleasant, with Fagan's urgent tenor the more impressive, and there was a diverting appearance during the encores by Roy Reid, the talkover disc jockey better known as I. Roy, but Matumbi need to learn how to pace a set, how to inject contrast, and how to be more assertive of their individuality.

Tim Heald

Full house

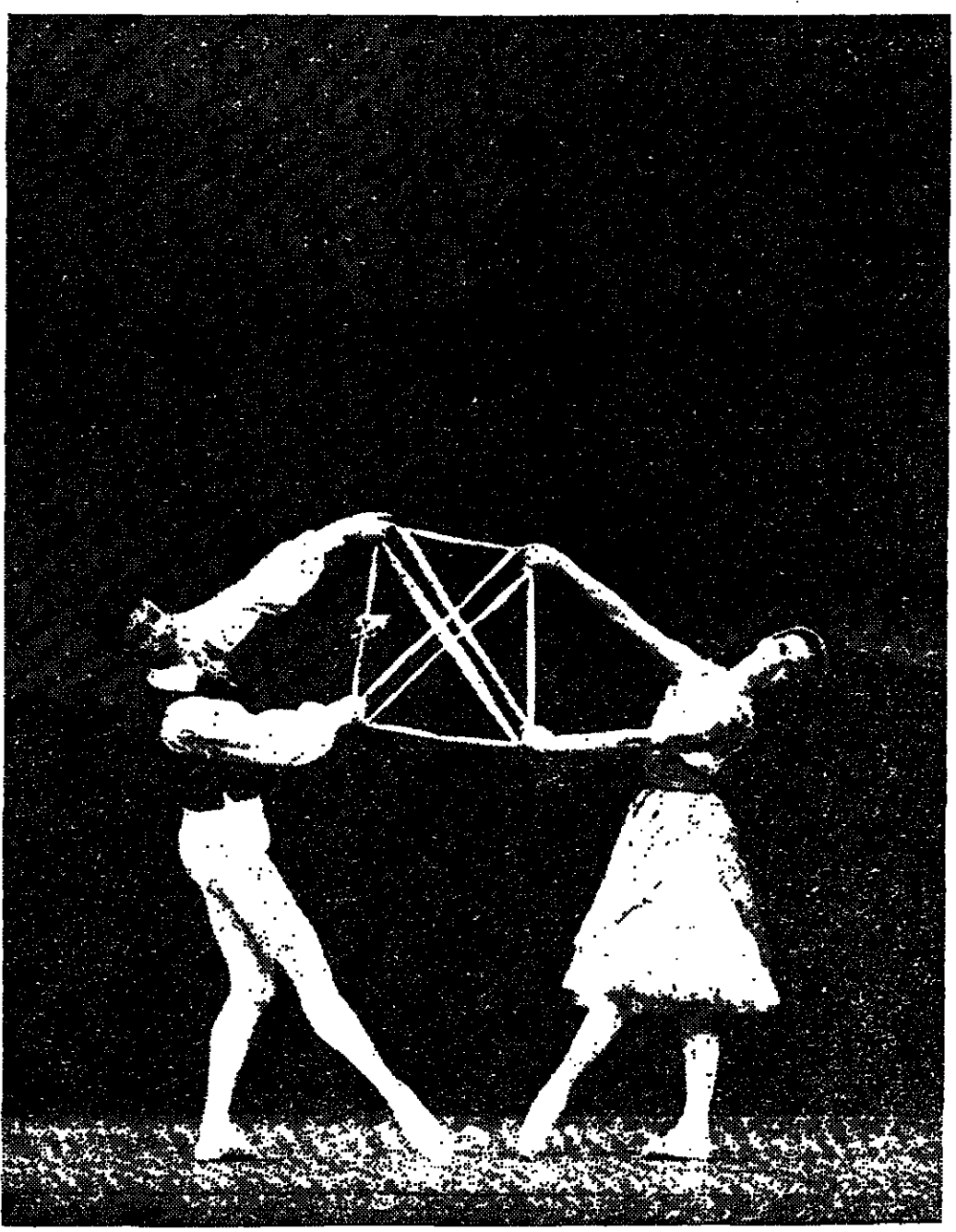
All 10 concerts the first part of the Philharmonia Orchestra's 1980-81 season at the Royal Festival Hall were sold out. With the general situation reflecting no improvement on audience figures during the first part of the current season, the Philharmonia attributes its record-breaking subscription scheme which it was the first London orchestra to adopt.

Contemporary Music Network

Groups appearing on the Contemporary Music Network in the spring will include the Delphonic Ensemble of Japan, directed by the Japanese composer Joji Yuasa. Performing in traditional dress, the musicians will present both traditional and modern works.

Other ensembles on the touring circuit will be the Sam Rivers Trio, playing impro-

vised free jazz, the Schutz Choir of London, giving the first performances of Nigel Osborne's *Gnostic Passion*, and Electric Phoenix, offering extended vocal techniques and electronics. There will be more jazz from the Don Rendell Nine, including Rendell's *Earth Music*, vocal acrobatics from the Trio Evxoco of Stuttgart and works by Koussens, Birtwistle, Stravinsky and Mozart in a programme by the London Sinfonietta.



Lesley Collier and Michael Coleman

La Fille mal gardée

Covent Garden

John Percival

Wednesday's performance of *La Fille mal gardée* was recorded by BBC cameras for transmission at a later date, not yet set, and for inclusion in the prospective publications of Covent Garden Video Ltd. So the first two works in the video series have come from opposite ends of the range of choices.

The Royal Opera's Hoffmann, recorded last week, is a new, somewhat disputable production with an all-star cast. The Royal Ballet's *Fille* is an old favourite in a familiar production with a standard repertory cast. Somebody really should have told the cameramen that dinner jackets were not necessary this time.

There is a lot to be said for recording the Royal Ballet as

it is, without any special frills, and Lesley Collier was the obvious choice from among the present leading dancers to play Lise. She dances the part sweetly and with dash; not so much depth or variety as some we remember, but very acceptable.

Unfortunately the obvious Colas is on the sick list. Michael Coleman filled in with his usual sturdy professionalism, but this was never one of his best roles and, now that he has added a stronger personality, there are some dodgy moments in the technique. He even danced a perty not to have the definitive version going down to history.

But altogether this is hardly a definitive *Fille*. The corps de ballet is in splendid form, and anyone who reruns the video 10 years from now is likely to spot some faces around the edge of the stage of dancers who by then have become stars. The solo performances are less stellar; in fact Leslie Edwards's

jovial portrait of old Thomas, a part he created, is the only one that has not been much better done by former casts.

There seemed, incidentally, to be much overacting all round, but perhaps the cameras need that and it will look better on the small screen.

Pavarotti misses

'Ballo' opening

The management of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, have announced that Luciano Pavarotti will be unable to sing the opening performance of Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera* on January 15 for personal family reasons of illness.

Mr Pavarotti is, however, expected to sing *Gustavus* at the remaining performances on January 19, 22, 26 and 30 and on February 3, 6 and 11.

A further announcement concerning the change of cast for January 15 will be made as soon as possible, the opera house said.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

SPORT

12,000 seat stand to replace Shed

Chelsea yesterday announced plans for a £14 million development at Stamford Bridge. A new 12,000-seat stand will replace the popular Shed terrace. But while Chelsea went to the club's annual meeting to discuss the plan, the club's new stadium, opened in 1974, the new stand should not cost the club a penny. A property consortium will be invited to build a 99,000 square foot office complex on the present football ground. The consortium will be invited to build a 99,000 square foot office complex on the present football ground. The consortium will be invited to build a 99,000 square foot office complex on the present football ground.

Ipswich's immediate plans hit by Gates's two-game suspension

By Norman Fox, Football Correspondent
Ipswich Town, who are one point behind Liverpool and Aston Villa and still have two games in hand, yesterday dealt a blow to their immediate plans when Eric Gates was suspended for two matches. The England international has been playing well of late and was singled out for special praise after his valuable performance against Villa in the FA Cup last Saturday.

Gates, who had passed 20 disciplinary points and was sent off in the league match at Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane last month, will miss the important game against Nottingham Forest at Portman Road tomorrow and the home match against Birmingham City on Tuesday when Ipswich will be anxious to take advantage of the club's games in hand. The only previous match he missed this season was against Birmingham when he was automatically suspended for being sent off at Tottenham.

Bobby Robson, the Ipswich manager, attended the FA disciplinary committee hearing in London yesterday. He said that Gates had been sent off in the Tottenham match because he had been "too good for his own good". He said that Gates had been "too good for his own good". He said that Gates had been "too good for his own good".

All downhill and into sunshine for Miss Pröll

From John Hennessy, Fronten, Jan 8
Cornelia Pröll, of Austria, emerged at last from the shadow of her famous sister, Annemarie (née Mrs Moser), here in the Bavarian Alps today. Or it may be that she has had to wait until now, a few days away from her 20th birthday, to reach some sort of fulfilment in the wake of her sister's retirement, garlanded with a variety of medals and sustained by lucrative commercial contracts.



Miss Pröll: jumping from beneath her sister's shadow.

'Impossible' the way to improve for England

From Sydney Friskin, Karachi, Jan 8
The England team are here on a venture already written off by many as "Mission Impossible". The action will start tomorrow at the Hockey Club of Pakistan with England's match against West Germany, which will usher in the third Champions Trophy tournament, sponsored by Pakistan International Airlines. In the second match of the day Pakistan, the holders, will play Spain, leaving the remaining two of the tournament, Australia and Australia, to oppose each other on Saturday in the round-robin series.

Rich pickings for two Dundee clubs

Dundee's two football teams have reaped the benefits of league and cup success in the mid-season payout to Scotland's 38 senior clubs. The money comes from the Dundee United and Dundee Rangers, the whisky distillers, sponsors of the League Cup.

Brazil are back beating the big drum into the final

Montevideo, Jan 8.—Jupp Derwall, the West German coach, defended his team's attitude after they had crashed to a 1-4 defeat against Brazil in the Gold Cup tournament here last night. West Germany went into the match knowing they had no chance of qualifying for the final of the six-nation tournament while Brazil needed to win by better than 2-1 to oust the world champions, Argentina, and qualify to play the host nation, Uruguay, on Saturday.

Derwall, who said that his team had been "too good for their own good", defended his team's attitude after they had crashed to a 1-4 defeat against Brazil in the Gold Cup tournament here last night. West Germany went into the match knowing they had no chance of qualifying for the final of the six-nation tournament while Brazil needed to win by better than 2-1 to oust the world champions, Argentina, and qualify to play the host nation, Uruguay, on Saturday.

Gennoe joins Palace on a month's loan

Cryshal Palace have signed Terry Gennoe, the Southampton goal-keeper, on a month's loan. He is the first arrival at Selhurst Park since Malcolm Allison became manager.

Sibson meets Argentine

Tony Sibson, Britain's European middleweight champion, will be back in action at the Albert Hall on January 27 in a 10-round contest against Roberto Cabrera, of Argentina.

Boxing

Warrington and Leigh have been fined £200 and £100 respectively for breaching the rules of the Boxing Day. A Rugby League spokesman explained that Warrington's fine was doubled because it was the second such incident they had been involved in this season.

Rugby League

Warrington and Leigh have been fined £200 and £100 respectively for breaching the rules of the Boxing Day. A Rugby League spokesman explained that Warrington's fine was doubled because it was the second such incident they had been involved in this season.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Fourth Division: Southampton United v. Stockport United, Torquay United.

Racing

Haydock Park programme
12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Lion-hearted Highway is a curious yellow

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent
Highway, who caused an upheaval in the Triumph Handicap market a week ago when he won the Challow Hurdle impressively at Newbury, was sound when he returned to the track yesterday. He was sound when he returned to the track yesterday. He was sound when he returned to the track yesterday.

British team for South Africa

Six top British jockeys are to challenge a South African team over an eight-race series at Durban and Germiston next month. They are Willie Carson, Paul Cook, Pat Eddery, Joe Mercer, Lester Pigott and Greville Starkey.

Wagering way to a record

Irish racegoers wagered a record £57.65m at meetings in the Republic during 1980. Of this figure, £33.78m was with "on-course" bookmakers, and the remainder with the Tote. The Tote's share, though, showed an increase of 16 per cent, compared with only 3.4 per cent with the bookmakers.

Gifford gives judgment on injections

After Royal Judgement recorded his fourth win in five outings this season under top weight in Lingfield, his trainer, John Gifford, criticised the edict concerning the compulsory anti-influenza jab. He said that the horse must be completed by March 26.

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001; 2m)
1.35 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap; £1,058; 2 1/2m)

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Emul Boy. 1.15 Taffy. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Taffy. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, assesses the challenge-facing the man who must cut millions from the defence budget



Mr John Nott and BAOR forces in West Germany whose future is the subject of speculation.

A testing baptism of fire for Mr Nott

Mr John Nott who enters his new office as Secretary of State for Defence for the first time on Monday, will be doing so at a difficult time. True, times are always difficult for a fresh face in Horse Guards Avenue, with the Armed Forces, the Civil Service, the defence industries and a daze of technical detail to master. But Mr Nott's baptism will be more fiery than most.

During the next few weeks he will have to preside over a programme of economies whose purpose is to take several hundred million pounds out of next year's Defence Estimates. The figure includes the £200m cut demanded by the Cabinet last November and (probably) the amount by which the ministry will exceed its cash limits in 1980-81. A total figure of £600m has been adopted by the media but the ministry insists this is only a guess.

The operation will be painful but not as drastic as some recent speculation has suggested. A number of weapons and communications systems now under development will be cancelled or postponed, recruiting and training will be pruned, fuel economies will be maintained and the usual package of building and welfare schemes will be once more buried in the "pending" tray. To this extent it will be another instalment in the stop-go saga which has made a succession of defence secretaries feel more like candidates on

an assault course than shapers of policy.

The Government will not announce the dismemberment of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR)—a rumour which recently made page one of the *News of the World*. Alongside a story headlined: "My 1,000 Sexy Nights..."—if only because this would not save enough money in a short enough time. On the other hand there is a growing consensus that more fundamental surgery will be necessary in the medium or long-term if our defence policy is to have any coherence. The growing debate has been reflected in the letters columns of this newspaper.

Speculation over the future of BAOR was fostered, intentionally or otherwise, by the outgoing Defence Secretary Mr Pym, who was inclined to think about the subject without actually clarifying what he had in mind. Last year's Defence White Paper made no secret of Government concern over the "disturbing" rise in foreign exchange costs of stationing troops on the continent—nearly £750m in 1978-80. And the final offset costs agreement with West Germany expired last March.

Ironically the strength of Britain's Armed Forces is also their weakness. They are almost too well balanced. They keep a full corps and four RAF bases in West Germany; maintain the largest navy in Western Europe; assume responsibility for a huge air

'The trouble is that Britain distributes its resources so widely that at all times and in all directions there are grounds for criticism. The eggs are in too many baskets.'

defence region around the United Kingdom; operate a strategic nuclear deterrent; and still have to find troops for faraway places like Gibraltar, Hongkong, Cyprus, Belize and not-so-far-away Northern Ireland.

As professionals they expect to be well-paid, well-trained, well-equipped—and to take their families with them when stationed away from home. They need schools, hospitals, doctors, dentists, lawyers. Successive governments have been criticized for not spending enough on the Royal Navy, the Army or the RAF, for not contributing enough to one NATO theatre or another. The trouble is that Britain distributes its resources so widely that at all times and in all directions, there are grounds for criticism. The eggs are in too many baskets.

The public debate has been over whether the time has come for the Government to concentrate its resources upon either a continental strategy—strengthening British Forces Germany at the expense of the Royal Navy in the Eastern Atlantic, or upon a maritime

strategy, which would effectively mean doing exactly the opposite. But such judgments are easily made by academics who do their sums on paper, while ministers who actually have to deal with troops on the ground or ships at sea, understandably find them more difficult.

A land war in Western Europe of the kind which BAOR has been trained to fight now seems unlikely. So should not BAOR be reduced at least—along with RAF Germany? If one does this, however, one has to decide what to do with the soldiers who are withdrawn. If you keep them in Britain, ready to fly over to Germany in a crisis, you have to build or refurbish barracks for them to live in, provide them with two sets of equipment, find new places for them to train, and prevent them from growing bored.

You also have to ensure that you can fly them back to the continent in a hurry—perhaps at a time when roads, railways and airfields are jammed. On the other hand, if you discharge them from the Army you would not be able to fly them

back at all, and would add to the queues for civilian jobs—in the short term anyway.

They argue that the Navy's commitment to the Eastern Atlantic could be reduced, point out that if there were another war it would probably be short and sharp—and would be over before the Royal Navy could play much part in it. On the other hand, again, the Royal Navy represents a very special British contribution to NATO and a decision to run it down could not easily be reversed. There is simply too much investment in the navy's anti-submarine warfare (ASW) role for any Government to view this option with equanimity. The loss of two RAF squadrons which are dedicated to NATO in an anti-shipping role looks very likely, especially as the future of the Sea Eagle missile, which has been developed partly for them, now looks doubtful.

Ideally we need not another Defence Review in Britain but a NATO Review masterminded from Brussels. Mr Pym has already proposed one, and ministers will discuss it at the next meeting of the Defence Planning Committee in May. Unfortunately the European allies do not move except under pressure—and they are already under pressure from the United States. They will not have much sympathy for an impoverished Britain, especially as they think our impoverishment is largely our own fault.

The deployment pattern of NATO forces has remained virtually unchanged for 30 years and the alliance, like Britain, thinks from one political crisis to the next. Mr Pym's lead if only in the hope that the alliance can work out a more equitable arrangement for sharing the costs of stationing troops overseas.

If Britain has to drop one of its larger NATO commitments, most of the allies would not doubt prefer that the Government should abandon its plans to retain a strategic deterrent—or at least should select a cheaper alternative than the Trident missile. The Ministry of Defence has already started to spend money on ordering long-lead items for the Trident system and the four British submarines to be built. But cancellation would be relatively simple before the mid-1980s when the bulk of the £5,000m costs starts to fall due. If a Labour government were returned to power in 1984, cancellation of the Trident programme would be quite likely anyway.

Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet have committed themselves so firmly to Trident that they must regard cancellation with a shudder. But the Government is already twisting and turning over its pre-election pledges on defence. Unless the economy improves more markedly than now seems likely, the Government might find this one of the more digestible options open to it.

NATO forces has remained virtually unchanged for 30 years and the alliance, like Britain, thinks from one political crisis to the next. Mr Pym's lead if only in the hope that the alliance can work out a more equitable arrangement for sharing the costs of stationing troops overseas.

If Britain has to drop one of its larger NATO commitments, most of the allies would not doubt prefer that the Government should abandon its plans to retain a strategic deterrent—or at least should select a cheaper alternative than the Trident missile. The Ministry of Defence has already started to spend money on ordering long-lead items for the Trident system and the four British submarines to be built. But cancellation would be relatively simple before the mid-1980s when the bulk of the £5,000m costs starts to fall due. If a Labour government were returned to power in 1984, cancellation of the Trident programme would be quite likely anyway.

Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet have committed themselves so firmly to Trident that they must regard cancellation with a shudder. But the Government is already twisting and turning over its pre-election pledges on defence. Unless the economy improves more markedly than now seems likely, the Government might find this one of the more digestible options open to it.

Geoffrey Smith

Confidence will plug the leaks

"I hope it will happen less and less," said Mrs Thatcher on television this week, speaking of her Government's tendency to leak. So she should. This Government has been more prone to leak and more divided than any Conservative administration within memory. Why? This certainly cannot be attributed to the presence of Mr St John Stevas in its ranks, so what grounds are there for believing that everything will be different in the future?

The cohesion of a government is determined partly by the influence of the prime minister, partly by the extent of the policy differences among its members, and partly by whether it feels itself to be successful. It is when things are going badly that some ministers are most inclined to dissociate themselves surreptitiously from the rest.

A prime minister can exercise a unifying influence either through exceptional skill as a chairman—like Mrs Thatcher—or through massive personal authority. Mr Heath, for example, imposed his will on the last Conservative Government in a way that stifled dissent.

Mrs Thatcher does not come into either category. It is not her inclination, as yet, to guide the discussion until the moment comes to summarize the conclusions. Her preference is to lead from the front, with a certain relish for a good argument. She tends to state her view and in effect to challenge others to disagree. This leads to a style of government that is more stimulating for ministers, with a more open debate among them. But it also leads to a fractious life. She has a stormy relationship with some of her most successful ministers. Lord Carrington is a case in point.

It is true that she has been reverting more to a chairman's role in Cabinet, but it is hard to believe that it could be in her nature to develop into a Tory Aztec. Neither does she hold the Cabinet together by her personal authority. She is indeed a formidable person and her authority was naturally enhanced by such large electoral victory. But she is leading a Cabinet with many more experienced members, a number of whom do not share her basic attitudes. There may also be an element of male chauvinism.

Her authority may to some extent be increased by her dismissal of Mr St John Stevas. She has shown that she is prepared to chop off the head of a minister who gives offence. This may impress the party and may for a time have a cautionary effect upon other ministers. But the operation has been botched. Mrs Thatcher has been forced into the uncomfortable position for any politician of having to protest that her words did not mean what they were thought to have meant. An executioner ought not to have to apologize.

The increase in respect that accrues to a good butcher in politics is likely to be limited in this instance. It will not be enough to keep the Cabinet in line if there are further major differences in policy. Nothing that has been done will remove the propensity to disagree. The question is whether there will be such occasions for disagreement as to sweep aside the pressures for public unity. This is very far from being a government with a death wish. Its differences will be made manifest only when it cannot come together on issues of consequence.

There has been no shortage of these during the Government's life so far. Apart from the undercurrent of doubt over the economic strategy, there have in particular been the disputes over public expenditure and the balance of payments. Mrs Thatcher will no doubt recall that disagreement has been expressed from both sides of the Cabinet. It was, after all, she herself who recommended the Government's earlier scheme for widening industrial relations law. "Some

of us think it ought to have gone further."

A Green Paper on further reform in this field is to be published next week. It is almost impossible to propose anything in this area without attracting flak from somewhere in the Tory party, but the principal argument is likely to be whether to legislate again in this Parliament or to promise in the manifesto to do so in the next. With luck, that should postpone and restrict dispute to manageable proportions.

After the trauma of the last public expenditure cuts there is no disposition on either wing of the Cabinet to embark on another exercise of the same sort. There will always be arguments as to how public expenditure should be kept under control, but that is not so difficult as seeking severe cuts. The most contentious field of public spending in the near future is likely to be on defence. If Mrs Thatcher has appointed Mr Nott as Secretary of State in the hope of bringing the department back within its cash limits there will be some tension. The resistance of the Chiefs of Staff will be particularly formidable because they will have the support of Conservative backbenchers who were already becoming restive over the Government's intentions before Christmas. There could be trouble here.



Mrs Thatcher... tends to state her view and in effect to challenge others to disagree. This leads to a style of government that is more stimulating for ministers... but also leads to a fractious life

But the most probable flash-point is over economic strategy. In the immediate future there will be the questions of the public sector borrowing requirement and the Budget. These are not usually the subject of dispute within the Cabinet because it is the custom for members simply to be informed of the Budget proposals at the last minute. This time there will be attempts to secure a voice for the Cabinet collectively in determining the Budget strategy.

If these attempts are successful it will be a sign that the Prime Minister is far from dominating the Cabinet, because this would be a change not just of procedure but of power.

The critical point, though, will come some time before the end of the year if there are not indications that the overall economic strategy is succeeding—and is likely to be successful in time for the next election. Ministers will know that success will have to be evident during 1982 if they are to stand a reasonable chance at the next election.

One there are signs that the economic strategy is working this will become a more confident government and confident governments do not leak. But if there are not better grounds for hope within a year then the leaks and indirect disclaimers will multiply, no matter how many ministers Mr Thatcher may care, and dare, to sack.

Nor do smart clothes or the student look with faded jeans, Pepsi and Marlboro cigarettes attract attention any more; you could pass for any Muscovite keeping up with the trend, especially as Pepsi and Marlboro cigarettes are made in the Soviet Union.

But full broomball gear is still basic enough to turn a few heads and the game, even with the new restrictions and the annual additions to the rules, has now had enough publicity to keep it going for many more years. I suggested to a Chinese diplomat that his embassy might have room in its vast compound (the second largest in the world, after the Soviet Embassy in Peking) for a little rink in one corner, for Moscow's broomballs. He was intrigued but said the only suitable place had a large ornamental fountain in the middle, and that would complicate the rules immensely.

So the enthusiasts will have to make do with two rinks and abide by British notions of what constitutes a proper, silly, amateur knockabout—not knockout—game.

Michael Binyon

Professor F A Hayek on why the poor nations remain poor

The flaws in the Brandt report

developed an effective market economy; and there are countries which have become increasingly socialist and have during this period suffered a relative or absolute decline in their standard of living and their prospects. This is the "increasing gap", carried by the policies pursued by these countries and by nobody else. We need compare merely West Germany, East Germany, which 30 years ago started equally poor.

The extraordinary feature of the present positions is that the governments who bear the responsibility claim that the socialist principles which have ruined the economies of their countries should be applied internationally to enable them to continue. I am not questioning that, in the general interest, larger amounts of capital should flow from the wealthy to the poorer countries. That is how in the past economic progress spread. What I am questioning is whether this capital should go to the governments of these countries to enable them to continue with their socialist experiments, and whether the means by which this capital should be provided to them would harm rather than benefit the people of those countries. The western world seems to

have been led to its present policies by a silly kind of competition with Russia for the sympathy of the "Third World". This is not the goodwill of the intellectual elites whose misguided doctrines now govern so much of the third world, but from the growing welfare of the masses that we must hope in the long run to derive their friendship. Since the majority of the people of the Western world rightly believe that they owe their wealth to the market economy which they maintain, it would only be reasonable if they confined their assistance to the countries in which they could expect that the people at large would benefit from the investment of capital. Let the Russians assist those

governments which wish to organize their economies on the Russian model and let the "Third World" countries help to those where they can believe that what they do will really benefit the people at large.

It is deeply to be regretted that a former Conservative British Prime Minister has joined the former socialist Prime Ministers of Germany, Sweden and elsewhere in the notorious North-South report to support the traditional fallacy that poverty can be cured by a massive transfer of wealth from the rich to the poor. This is not the place in which the basic error of this can be conclusively refuted. I can here only implore all readers who have been moved by the

specious plausibility of the Brandt Report to study the full analyses which British experts in the field have produced in the past few months published in various journals, such as Professor P. D. Henderson in *The World Economy* (June), Professors P. T. Bauer and B. S. Yamey in *Commentary* (September) and several others in the current issue of *Economica*.

They should be aware that the help should be given to the third world but merely that the methods now practised or recommended in the Brandt Report are not only ineffective but would in several ways produce effects opposite to those desired. Personally, I still believe that the alternative I suggested 27 years ago with respect to American help to Europe would equally apply to all Western help to the third world. There seems to me, I then argued, a strong case for a division of functions between American business and government.

"Let American government, while withdrawing entirely from direct lending at the same time assume the role of guarantor against political risks, of private loans to private

foreign borrowers, and especially against the risk of the non-transferability of the proceeds of such investments. The economic risk of the particular investment—the borrower paying interest, or dividends, and repaying the capital in his own country—would still remain entirely with the investor. The United States government would merely guarantee that any money thus paid to his credit on the borrowing country would become available in free dollars.

Such a guarantee should of course be given on a non-reciprocal basis, on conditions made while the borrower's country abided by the undertaking on which the arrangement was based. The appropriate foundation would be an agreement between the United States and the country concerned, in which the latter undertook to refrain from imposing any obstacles to the transfer of returns from such investments, from levying discriminatory taxation, and from acts of expropriation or confiscation. In return, the United States government would agree to assume full responsibility for any debts on which, through its failure to live up to its obligations, the guarantee of the United States government became effective."

MOSCOW DIARY

I was waiting at the reception desk in the American Embassy recently when I heard voices from the corridor round the corner. Two senior political analysts were engaged in urgent discussion. "The Finnish defence attaché would probably be able to help," one said. "Perhaps we ought to have a word with him."

Clearly I was about to learn some secrets about the defence of the West. "Have you tried Sir Curtis?" the other asked. "You know Sir Curtis is under a lot of pressure at the moment," was the reply. Sir Curtis Keeble is the British Ambassador in Moscow. What could the matter be? But then it was instantly clear—and all too typical of most conversations in embassy corridors at this time of year. They were talking about broomball.

Broomball, to remind anyone who has not been heard about the foibles of foreigners in Moscow, is an extraordinarily silly game played by Anglo-Saxons and a few others in winter. It is rather like ice-hockey played seven-a-side but you wear rubber-soled shoes—making it hard to manoeuvre on the ice—and play with a child's plastic ball and Russian twig brooms

bound up with sticky tape into the form of a flail hook.

Over the years broomball, a locally invented game, has blossomed into a fully organized winter sport with a dozen or more teams from various embassies, a league table, a cup presented each year by British Airways, a set of rather arbitrary rules and a very competitive injury rate.

But this year there is something of a crisis in the broomball world, a number of key ambassadors decided they had had enough of it, partly because of the casualty rate. Since you are permitted and even encouraged to launch yourself at your opponent like a human puck whizzing across the ice, the resulting collisions, though amusing to watch, tend to knock out, literally, several good first secretaries every year. Saturdays, when matches are played, become red alert days for Moscow's British and American doctors, who did a fine job last year sewing up gashes (including my own lip) and setting broken fingers.

There was also the problem of noise. The game has to be played on a frozen tennis court, and there were only four embassies in Moscow that could provide one—Britain, Finland,

Sweden and Malaysia. Naturally no respectable team arrives without its supporters: long-suffering wives dragged out to the frequent intervals and friends who enter into the spirit of it all with a great deal of shouting, booing and rather crude instruction on what to do with this or that opposition player.

When you are in the thick of it, it's an authentic sporting atmosphere, but when you're enjoying a Saturday afternoon rest in the neighbouring embassy residence it is an unending raucous din. At least that is what the Finns found; and after an unfortunate trumpet-blowing incident last year the ambassador decided he did not want broomball on his ice any more.

A big meeting of the captains at the beginning of the season discussed retaliatory measures. Should the Finnish team, unbeaten champions year in year out, be banned from playing? It was a popular move, not least because it would then allow someone else to win the cup. But an uncharacteristically generous spirit prevailed, and instead the matches were rescheduled on only three rinks. After the first two weeks



there was a new crisis. Some people became rather high-spirited on the Malaysian ice, broke into a locked shed and used broomball language to embassy officials. And that was the last game the Malaysians allowed on their rink. Meanwhile a member of the

American marines' team—marines provide the guards for United States embassies—took a dislike to a Canadian, strode out from his goal and knocked him out.

The British Ambassador, as one of the two remaining patrons, was then in a strong position. It was, after all, the Brits who invented the game, and Sir Curtis was determined to put a bit of British fair play into it. The league has now been abolished: each match is to be a friendly, and if there has to be a knockout competition—figuratively—let it be at the end of the season when the thaw has already begun. The Marines and Finns are far from happy.

During my broom last year but was persuaded to return to the ice, or rather slush, because of the unexpectedly mild weather, on New Year's Day to play against the British Embassy team. Of course our side lost: I have never yet played on a winning side.

The British ladies deserved to win because they were so smartly turned out, blue and white uniforms with sweat-shirts saying "Great Britain" in big letters on their rinks. A good broomball T-shirt is half the

fun. It should properly have something in Russian written on it (the translation of "American Marine Corps" is very quaint and must astonish any Soviet onlookers).

Foreigners have been rather influenced by the Soviet passion for western T-shirts, sold in reverse. A Russian slogan is very snob and does wonders for your status—not here, of course, but back in Britain, America or wherever.

After all, what's the fun of going home for holidays if you are not given a chance of boasting about living in Moscow? You cannot sit in the pub with your fur hat on, hoping someone will instantly take you for a Muscovite. But sport a jersey saying "Moskva" (Russian for Moscow) or a picture of St Basil's Cathedral on Red Square and someone is sure to tell you how he served on the Arctic convoys to Murmansk or once bought a Soviet camera that could never be repaired.

I have found the same gasps of astonishment can be cheaply produced by writing your home address on the back of a cheque, and having the subsequent nonchalant patter all prepared. But I was rather taken aback a few weeks ago when I went into a well-known

clothes shop in England and made a great show of exclaiming over the magnificent shiny black plastic bag the shirt I bought as placed in.

Did you know, I asked the shop assistant, that where I live these bags can be sold on the black market for a great deal of money? "Oh yes, I know," he replied coolly. "You must come from Russia." I had forgotten that I had told him exactly the same thing a year earlier.

Off the broomball rink it is more difficult to show off your status in Russia. Of course a useful skill will produce the usual curious stares, especially if it is one totally unsuited to Moscow's roads and climate—a flashy American sports model, for example, which can be guaranteed not to start in the cold mornings and need expensive spares from halfway around the world. One well-known conductor at the Bolshoi has such a car—white, expensive and has thus achieved the ultimate in status symbols. But nowadays it is not as rare as it was to see a Mercedes with Soviet number plates. I once even saw a new bright yellow Morgan cruising down the streets of Yerevan, the capital of Armenia.



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

POLICE AND THEIR SUSPECTS

The Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure had the difficult and sensitive task of trying to devise a publicly acceptable balance between competing positions, which have not always been argued by their supporters rationally or moderately, on a subject of great interest and importance to society. The report it has produced is impressive in its intellectual approach and in its appreciation of the significance of the issues involved. It is unanimous in the sense that every member of the Commission has signed it, though throughout the text there is evidence of disagreement in a number of areas. All the members, however, accept the general thrust of the Commission's recommendations. The differences of opinion about specific topics merely emphasize the complexity of the subject-matter, and should not detract from the impact of the conclusions reached.

Part of the Commission's job was to bring rationality and intelligibility to the wide variety of laws on police powers, many of which have developed piecemeal and often anomalously over more than a century. That, the Commission has done with considerable success. If its proposals were to be implemented, there would be, for the first time since the police came into being, a series of laws and codes governing every aspect of the relationship between the police and the individual who might come into contact with them in a criminal matter. They would tell the police exactly what they were under a duty to do, and what they were entitled to do, and they would tell the individual exactly what his rights were.

Setting up a rational system of criminal procedure is not, however, the end of the matter. The question is whether the proposals allow the police to pursue the objective of detecting crime and bringing criminals to justice without being unduly hampered by restrictive laws, and at the same time provide a suspect with sufficient safeguards against oppression and misconduct on the part of the police. In particular does it provide safeguards against police practices which might result in wrongful conviction? On the whole, the Commission has succeeded in drawing

that fine balance on paper, but its recommendations require that society place a level of confidence in police behaviour, and in their commitment to the laws and rules laid down, that cannot be taken for granted.

The broad effect of the Commission's proposals, seen as a package (which is how they should be looked at) would be to rationalize, but also in some cases, to increase police powers. At the same time they would lay down a stricter legal basis on which the police would exercise those powers, and provide additional and clearly defined rights for suspects. The balance is the theory. But will the police keep within the rules?

The civil liberties lobby believes that the only way to ensure police adherence to the rules is to make any evidence obtained by exceeding lawful powers inadmissible at a subsequent trial. The Commission, except where there has been "inhuman or degrading treatment", has rejected an automatic exclusionary rule of that kind; it prefers to leave policemen who overstepped their authority to be disciplined by their superiors, made subject to the criminal law or possibly be sued in the civil courts. Judges would be expected to draw the attention of a jury to the fact that evidence had been obtained by improper means, and require them to find corroborative evidence in support.

It is not easy to assess whether those consequences would be sufficient to persuade the police that they should stick scrupulously to the laws and rules proposed governing detection and interrogation. But having an exclusionary rule would not necessarily provide a more effective sanction. Where such a rule has been in operation in the United States, it has largely failed to curb excessive police behaviour.

The Commission has been unnecessarily cautious about tape recordings. It recognized that the recording of police interviews with suspects would be the most appropriate way of protecting the suspect against being "verbalised", would monitor the way in which the police behaved, and provide the police themselves with protection against false allegations about their con-

duct. It then shied away from the logical conclusion that all interrogations in police stations should be recorded.

The Commission did so mainly on the ground of cost, though the amount involved—£6.5 million annually—is relatively modest and would form only a very small proportion of the total budget for the administration of justice. There are other difficulties as well—the lack of interview rooms with the necessary acoustical standards, and the difficulty of finding staff to transcribe the tapes—but these are surely not insuperable. Most of the expenditure would be in the transcription, rather than the taping, but as the vast majority of interrogations would not subsequently be challenged, it would only be necessary to transcribe those interviews which were in issue at the trial.

The existence of the so-called right of silence has been a subject of controversy for many years, with the police claiming that it allows serious criminals to go free (an assertion which has never been backed by convincing evidence) and those concerned with the rights of the suspect insisting that it was an essential safeguard, especially for the inadequate and the innocent. The Commission is right in recommending that judges and prosecutors should not be given the right to comment on a suspect's refusal to answer police questions, to point out the inconsistency of having an adversarial system which requires the prosecution to prove guilt, and incorporating into it the possibility that silence by an accused could form part of the prosecution's case.

The Commission is right, too, to reject the establishment of a national prosecution service, and to concentrate instead on the service provided locally. The division of responsibility between the police, who would retain control of the investigation process and the new Crown prosecutors' departments, which would make all the decisions affecting the prosecution, and conduct the case in court, is based on sound logical grounds. It is not in the interests of justice that investigation and prosecution should be in the same hands.

JAPAN'S DEFENCE—A NATIONAL DEBATE

It is significant that the first visit abroad of Mr Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, is not to Washington but to Asia. It demonstrates the way in which Japan is slowly emerging from her post-war dependence on the United States and restoring her traditional political and trading links with Asia. This time she is not seeking military domination as she did in the 1930s. However, as she shifts in her political orientation cannot be divorced from the growing debate over defence.

For some years Japan has been under pressure from the United States to increase her military budget on the grounds that she can well afford the cost and might reasonably be expected to bear a greater share of the burden of maintaining peace in East Asia. This pressure has not come as a surprise to the Japanese. The comforting image of a peaceful country busy with economic growth—and bound to be peaceful to secure vital imports of raw materials—has been shaken by events. Like it or not, the "low posture" that Japan has found so comfortable will no longer serve.

The first warning was the American withdrawal from Vietnam followed by President Carter's proposal for a phased withdrawal of the American divisions still in South Korea. At the same time, under Chinese pressure, Japan signed a friendship treaty in Peking, a move greeted with marked lack of enthusiasm in Moscow. American diplomatic ties with China brought home to the Japanese the prospect of far eastern realignment. What if they were

right in thinking that the American commitment to their interests was becoming less reliable? A poll in 1975 showed that Japanese support for the security treaty with the United States was still strong, but scarcely less strong was the opinion that in an emergency the Americans could not be relied upon to come to Japan's aid.

All this has set going a debate in Japan on defence and on the clause in the American-imposed constitution by which Japan forswears war and the maintenance of offensive armed forces. The decision to increase defence spending by 6.5 per cent in 1981 instead of the 9.7 per cent promised last month to Mr Harold Brown, the American Defence Secretary, is an interim step while the debate goes on.

The purely military reasons for the debate are obvious enough to all open-minded Japanese. The expansion of Soviet military, naval and air forces in the Far East now far exceeds Japan's defensive strength. The use for military purposes of Kunashiri and Etorofu, the islands occupied by the Russians to which Japan's claim continues to be ignored, adds nationalist emotion. Russian warships are all over far eastern waters and make regular use of Vietnamese ports. Japanese air routes and sea lanes are filled with Soviet reconnaissance craft. There have been enough Soviet violations of Japanese air space and territorial waters to bring home to the Japanese their manifest weakness.

These facts alone would call for improvements in Japan's forces, but coupled with the

growth of self-confidence in the 1970s they contribute to all those questions about Japan's place and purpose in the world which have been agreeably shelved since the defeat of 1945. Many influential Japanese think there is no cause for radical change. Japan is a member of the western block, they argue, and naturally ought to make a contribution commensurate with her economic power. This is still the mainstream position, and it allows an increase in the military budget while stopping short of revoking Article Nine of the Constitution.

However, more is now being heard of the view that the era in which Japan was taught to "lose in style" has ended. Economic power demands new goals and more effective government. "Existing democracy may be unable to produce the necessary unity of will," it is said, so there is hankering for a Japanese Gaule and a return to Confucian ideals of honour and spiritual nobility.

No dramatic change of this or any other kind is likely in the foreseeable future. At most, talk of a more forward foreign policy goes on, as if to assert independence without fastening on any one issue. There is some unease. Are Japan's relations with the Russians too much defined or constrained by membership of the western alliance? Does Japan enjoy a proper status by virtue of her western associations? But so far there is no national consensus for fresh answers, nor any pressure on Mr Suzuki to seek one.

SOE in the Balkans

From Sir Peter Wilkinson
Sir, As one of the "survivors" referred to by Mr M. R. D. Foot in his letter (January 3), may I endorse his plea for an official history of the work of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in the Balkans? And the sooner the better, for there are very few left with sufficient knowledge of SOE's exertions in Whitehall, in Baker Street, in Cairo, and in the field—and fewer still with first-hand experience of all four manifestations of "to breathe life" into the bones of the fragmentary SOE archives that are believed still to exist.

Unless something is done soon, history will be utterly confused by the myths of the media and the partial judgments of certain of those who worked for (or against) SOE in the Balkans. Indeed, there is much to be said for widening the subject and commissioning a comprehensive account of the part which Britain played in helping members of the European resistance movements to make their unique contribution not only to the Allied victory in 1945 but to the ideal of European unity which remains our earnest hope.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
PETER WILKINSON,
Mill House,
Charing, Kent

Civil Service criticism

From Sir Antony Part
Sir, Before the correspondence on "TV criticism of the Civil Service" is closed may I return to the BBC *Newsweek* programme that gave rise to it?

Whatever the Editor of *Newsweek* may say (letter, December 11) the preliminary briefing was pertinent compared with that of other programmes in which I have participated; no mention was made of the intention to highlight the Channel tunnel or the Charles de Gaulle Airport (comments on which from the British side would have been relevant and effective); my own contribution was restricted by the producer to a reflective tail-piece filmed as an afterthought by the BBC, and all my comments on some of the fashionable criticisms were omitted; so was the core contribution, largely to the Civil Service, made by a well known public figure. This was a notable incident. I believe a problem to which those responsible for television might well give more careful consideration. With honourable exceptions they have developed the practice of putting in charge of programmes on particular subjects—producers or interviewers, or both—people who, professing to know little or nothing about those subjects, expect to be able to mug them up in some

such period as three weeks. When they are criticized for excessive superficiality or for lack of balance they say that the critics mean that they have not done their "research" properly. The truth is that no amount of rushed "research" can make up for a lack of underlying knowledge.

This is not intended as special pleading on behalf of the Civil Service. It is a much wider problem, as recent controversies show, and one that it cannot be easy for the television organisers to solve. Nevertheless the BBC at least does deploy considerable resources on news and current affairs, and one cannot help wondering whether the present fragmentation of these resources, over different programmes and services could not usefully be replaced by an organization within the BBC that provides a knowledge in greater depth of the main sectors of public affairs.

If this were done, it could do much to improve the level of public discussion of some controversial matters and especially perhaps of those that are complex and difficult. Yours faithfully,
ANTONY PART,
Flat 5,
71 Elm Park Gardens, SW10,
January 5.

The hard choices on defence

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton

Sir, Mr Barnett is a competent historian, and has written agreeably enough about some military matters long past. His letter in your issue of December 22 demonstrates that he should stick to his last, for the making of defence policy is now a complicated and difficult matter for the life-time professionals, and we become the grasp of armchair dilettantes.

It is his astounding ignorance of Allied problems in the Nato area, and the probably greater threat to ourselves and our friends outside it, which calls for comment. It is common ground among informed observers that the land-air forces of Nato in central Europe are there to deter a Russian attack, whether from a standing start or after due preparation. It is equally common ground that their numbers and arms are on the borderline of adequacy for this purpose, and that their deterrent value is only credible because they can be supplied, resupplied and reinforced by sea, across the North Atlantic.

The vital support of the Central Region of Nato thus depends directly upon the ocean-going ships of the Royal Navy. There are no others in existence which could take their place, and not only do our Allies know it, but so do the Russians.

If the land-air forces in the Central Region of Nato are to be increased or strengthened, then it is clearly best to be done by those Allies who cannot contribute to the maritime deterrent forces. Rhine Army and RAF Germany are certainly important components of Northern Army Group and the Second Allied Tactical Air Force in political terms, but they are small in number, and although well trained are no longer in the front rank for equipment. If Trident were abandoned, the projected annual savings would be just enough to put one additional armoured division and possibly two more squadrons of aircraft in their orders of battle. I am certain that neither our Allies nor the Russians would feel that deterrence had thereby been significantly enhanced, or that Allied war-fighting capability made decisively greater should deterrence unhappily fail.

But the whole huge and difficult question of deterrence outside the Nato area has been ignored by Mr Barnett, and our Nato Allies warmly endorse the view that it is there, and not in Western Europe, that the greatest threat to the free world now lies. The statistics of what is at risk in the South Atlantic, the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, and the Gulf are by now well known, when if they have escaped Mr Barnett. Interdiction of those supply routes would quickly bring the industries of Western Europe and North America to a grinding halt, and destroy our way of life; and this is precisely why the Royal Navy is the size and shape it is. It can only be deterred or prevented by globally deployed sea power, and even a cursory glance at Jane's would make it clear that without the Royal Navy at its present minimum strength the job cannot be done.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HILL-NORTON,
House of Lords.

From Wing Commander Derek Dudley Martin

Sir, Brigadier Shelford Bidwell's list (December 31) is a useful start. Most who have served in the Armed Forces could add to it.

Why is it necessary to give military rank (with the inevitable expense that rank involves) to the education branch or to doctors and dentists? And is there any longer any justification for three Services? Yours faithfully,
DEREK DUDLEY MARTIN,
Cobble Wood,
Medmenham,
Marlow,
Buckinghamshire.

From Lieutenant-Colonel Sir G. Kennard

Sir, Perhaps Brigadier Shelford Bidwell, in his computerized solution to defence (December 31), has forgotten that the greatest factor in war remains morale.

That morale feeds on the tradition of the regiment, its history, customs and its uniform, so that in many hundred years the thin red line has never been truly broken. Nor will it ever be if the man behind the gun remains the same. Yours faithfully,
G. KENNARD,
Tiverton,
Devon,
January 6.

From Mr Edward Leigh
Sir, When the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, the G.L.C. Mr Alfred Harrington, criticizes me for saying that more money needs to be spent on defence and in particular on civil defence despite cut-backs in other areas of public expenditure (letter, December 29), I am reminded of the words of the Deputy Leader of her Majesty's Opposition, Mr Denis Healey: "I warn my honorable friends that once we cut defence expenditure to the extent where our security is imperilled, we have no homes, we have no hospitals, we have no schools, we have a heap of cinders."

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LEIGH,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1.

Sticky business

From Mr Eric Sampson
Sir, Mr Moriarty (January 6) will find acetone (nail varnish remover) or poultice (a thick paste of paint brush cleaner) will dissolve his problems. A vat of boiling oil is needed to dissolve the cause of them. Yours sincerely,
ERIC SAMPSON,
Science Research Council,
PO Box 18,
Swindon,
Wiltshire,
January 7.

Cairngorms ski developments

From Mr Peter Hodgkiss and Mr Mark Hutchinson

Sir, We would welcome the opportunity to express the objections of the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and the British Mountaineering Council to ski developments in the northern corries of Cairngorm, touched on by Ronald Faux (December 30) but so briefly that misunderstanding could arise.

The councils accept the overwhelming demand for expansion of ski facilities in the Scottish Highlands and are broadly in favour of development to meet the demand. However, we believe most earnestly that these should only be allowed to take place within the context of a Highland-wide policy plan that gives full weight to environmental factors and existing recreational use and balances these against the commercial viability of any proposal. Sadly, no such far-sighted planning has yet emerged.

Why is it that Coire an t-Sneachda and Coire an Lochain are so valuable to hill walkers and climbers?

First, the Cairngorms are one of the few areas of mountain wilderness in Western Europe and provide the most extensive high level hill walking in Britain. An area of such unique quality already carries a scar of considerable magnitude. Secondly, the two corries provide particularly good winter climbing grounds, of moderate length, combined with relatively easy access, make them unique in providing the qualities without the seriousness and commitment normally associated with Scottish winter climbing grounds.

Visual intrusion, noise and erosion, the inevitable consequences of ski development, are just the aspects mountaineers seek to escape in the hills. When one considers the qualities of the area and the fact that the development will serve a highly seasonal demand but despoil per-

manently, the widely held objections of the mountain users are, we believe, understandable and justified. Yours faithfully,
PETER HODGKISS,
Mountaineering Council of Scotland,
MARK HUTCHINSON,
British Mountaineering Council,
Crawford House,
Preston Centre,
Brook Street East, Manchester.

From Mr F. D. Hamilton
Sir, Ronald Faux's recent article (December 30) on the proposed expansion of ski facilities in the Cairngorms highlights a very important conservation issue. It can hardly be surprising that this threat to one of the most environmentally sensitive areas of Scotland has attracted objections from a wide range of amenity and nature conservation bodies including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The Cairngorm plateau is the outstanding example of the only habitat in Britain to be mentioned in the world conservation strategy as being in need of greater protection. International experts and local interests alike have expressed their deep concern that such a development should be proposed so close to such a vulnerable area.

While employment opportunities in an area such as the Highlands should not be lightly dismissed, the solution, as mentioned in your article, is for expansion of skiing facilities to take place in one or more of several areas other than Cairngorm where they would not have significant environmental impact. This would have the added advantage of making the economic benefits from ski developments more widely available.

Yours faithfully,
F. D. HAMILTON,
Director (Scotland),
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
17 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh.

Monetarism's testing time

From Professor Wynne Godley and Professor Robert Neild

Sir, Professor Milton Friedman, in an article in *The Times* of March 3, 1980, stated that in Britain it takes on average about six months for monetary growth to affect real growth and two years to affect inflation; he also issued a challenge to some of us in Cambridge "to offer empirical evidence contradicting these well-established propositions".

Now Mr Jay (January 5) claims that monetarism is a doctrine (sic) which "maintains that changes in the stock of money (less any changes in real productivity) will, after a delay of three to five years, determine the rate of inflation". An idea he specifically associates with the work of Professor Friedman.

If they want to be taken seriously, Mr Jay and his fellow monetarists cannot pluck a new number out of the air just because monetarism is failing to work as predicted. They must make up their minds how long the lag is, and explain precisely how they reached that conclusion.

The evidence does not support either proposition. The two-year lag

appeared to work in the early 1970s for the purely fortuitous reason that the rise in oil prices came two years after competition and credit control let loose the money supply; but it completely fails to account for the price explosion of 1979 and 1980. The three to five-year lag fails to explain the price increase in 1973 and 1974 and the deceleration after 1977.

And who is Mr Jay to say that unemployment, permanently on the rise, is not the "basic" cause of "basically" deserved? Unemployment is not the inescapable consequence of present wage bargaining practices, which were in operation during many years of full employment and negligible inflation. The present rise in unemployment at record rates to record levels is the direct consequence of the Government's fiscal policies which, together with high interest rates, have "hugely" raised the exchange rate and reduced real demand and output.

Yours faithfully,
WYNNE GODLEY,
ROBERT NEILD,
University of Cambridge
(Department of Applied Economics),
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge.

Dressing for the job

From Mr A. J. P. Dalton

Sir, Ms Anne Potter, Kingston and Richmond Area Health Authority nursing personnel officer, states that the wearing of trousers by nurses would offend tradition (report, January 6). Does she mean the tradition of nurses developing backache?

In some hospitals two nurses can lift a total of 23 tons in one hour toiling to tendent patients. Surveys have shown that an amazing one in 15 nurses suffer a back injury in the course of a year. Many nurses suffer irreparable damage, considerable pain and have to leave the profession for this reason.

Recommendation 14 of the recent Royal College of Nursing (RCN) report, "Avoiding Low Back Injury Among Nurses", was, "That nurses'

uniform should be modified to incorporate a trouser suit, to permit nurses to effect a correct lifting stance at all occasions."

Apparently, the tradition of uniform for nurses dates from the twelfth century. Backache likewise is no doubt the twentieth century. Let us hope the tribunal realises this and finds for Ms Kaur wearing trousers. All nurses, and thus patients, will benefit.

Such a decision will go some way to ensuring that, in the words of the RCN report, "Nursing should not be an occupation in which the fittest survive."

Yours sincerely,
ALAN J. P. DALTON,
Lecturer in Health and Safety,
South West London College,
Abbotswood Road, SW16,
January 6.

Art of the portrait

From Mr J. S. Ward, RA

Sir, I have read out a survey of the duties performed by the Royal Family during 1980, as reported in your Court Circular.

These are desperate times for young painters with the drying of per-time teaching which, for the past fifty years, has helped so many serious painters over the difficult early years, and new areas of patronage are badly needed. Everyone knows that hundreds of thousands of pounds are spent annually on portraiture, and this was a splendid and generous attempt to introduce new blood into this field.

For many years portraiture has been so despised by art critics that it has had none of the benefits of helpful criticism, and here was an opportunity for an appraisal of the art using the unique background of the National Portrait Gallery's own collection.

Drab and unimaginative Mr Taylor calls the entries, but could he not enlarge upon why so much of the work suffers in this way? Could he not use the powerful, yet enchanting, Reynolds of Garrick and his wife which we pass on the way to the exhibition to show where their work could benefit? Could he not have pointed out that the other rooms demonstrate what a rich variety of portraits are possible, from the huge groups to such tiny masterpieces as that of Colin Campbell by Francis Grant?

Many painters will feel that Mr Taylor has let slip a rare and golden opportunity to be both critical and helpful. But all good wishes to those young painters who were brave enough to enter the competition and congratulations to their sponsors for achieving an exhibition which is arousing great interest, and may it revive this great art. Yours faithfully,
JOHN WARD,
Bilking Court,
Ashford,
Kent,
December 31.

Tree management for energy uses

From Dr George Peterkin

Sir, It is heartening to hear that James Blissett and other farmers are turning their attention to planting and pollarding oaks for fuel (January 5). Perhaps, too, that other traditional form of tree management, coppicing, will return for much the same reasons.

Small, formerly coppiced woods are still scattered through the countryside and, despite decades of neglect, could once again supply fuel indefinitely to rural communities without even having to be planted. And the benefits for wildlife would be tremendous. Yours sincerely,
GEORGE PETERKIN,
Nature Conservancy Council,
PO Box 6,
Godwin House,
Grove Street,
Huntingdon,
January 7.

Planting policy

From the County Planning Officer, Royal County of Berkshire

Sir, I have no wish to enter Mr Stourton's anthropomorphic trap as to whether horse chestnuts are native (January 3). However, local authorities offering grant aid for tree planting in the countryside do so jointly with the Countryside Commission. Indeed the majority of the funds come from the commission.

The scheme has, therefore, to be operated in accordance with their advice which includes, "to accommodate landscape and nature conservation requirements, native broad-leaved trees should be used predominantly". They also state, "non-native trees which may be acceptable as a small proportion in planting schemes include sweet chestnut, horse chestnut, southern beech, grey alder and sycamore".

Thus the question is not one of history but of sympathy with the existing landscape of this country and its role in nature conservation. While introduced trees are often important from an aesthetic or commercial point of view, they should not be encouraged to become dominant in this way change the landscape that characterizes this country and reduce its potential for the conservation of wildlife.

This council encourages the planting of trees in the countryside but, in these days of financial stringency, priority must be given to schemes which make the most appropriate contribution.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. STODART,
County Planning Officer,
Royal County of Berkshire,
Department of Planning,
Shire Hall,
Reading, Berkshire,
January 6.

Coverage of Sutcliffe case

From Mr S. P. Best

Sir, Having viewed television programmes tonight (January 5) dealing with the arrest of Sutcliffe, and subsequent appearances before Dewsbury Magistrates of Mr P. W. Sutcliffe, I am driven to ask whether we need, particularly in murder and other serious cases, judges and juries to determine, after long and patient inquiry, guilt or innocence, still less, of course, solicitors or barristers to defend the accused.

The high priests of the broadcasting industry with their superior skills—so triumphantly demonstrated only recently in another and medical context by a Yorkshire team—placed us further in their debt tonight, rendering our cherished (but to them, no doubt, obscure) notions of justice obsolete and showing how the public, in a few minutes of mass viewing, can be guided to its verdict in the absence of the evidence one might even say, of the accused.

Yours faithfully,
S. P. BEST,
British Legal Association,
22 Chancery Road,
Royal Tunbridge Wells,
Kent,
January 5.

Effectiveness of fines

From Mr A. J. Brayshaw

Sir, Mr John Wheeler (January 2) has not understood the realities of the situation. Already, by law, courts take account of the means of offenders, so far as they are known, and there is some doubt (which needs resolving) whether fines may be legally increased for the wealthy as they must be decreased for the poor. Any guidelines or starting points are modified according to this factor among others.

If a better-off motorist is fined, say, £70 for careless driving he can, should, and usually does pay promptly. If an unemployed man—and it is surprising how many of them commit motoring offences—is fined £40 for a similar offence he may be required to pay, say, £2 a week. Discounts for prompt payment are not very relevant.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. BRAYSHAW,
Apple Trees,
Beach Road,
Haslemere,
Surrey,
January 2.

Special jury service

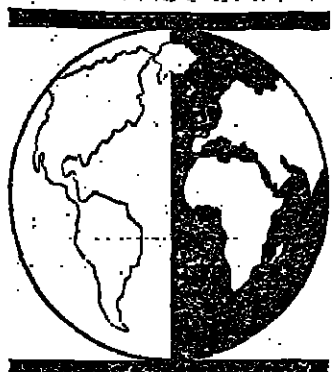
From Mr John H. Fisher Evans

Sir, On reading your critique (January 6) of a recent account of corruption in the Carmarthen past years I was reminded of the occasion early in this century when Mr Llewellyn Williams, QC, MP, a distinguished Welsh politician, lawyer, and Oxford scholar, travelling on circuit from Chester to Carmarthen Assize and witnessing from his carriage the final run of a foxhound chase in full cry reflected, in Welsh of course, "Pwr hille fox (caddo bach)" nothing but a Carmarthen jury could save you now." Yours truly,
JOHN H. FISHER EVANS,
6 Windsor House,
Westgate Street,
Cardiff,
January 6.



SANDRINGHAM

Miss Marjorie Moller, headmistress of Headington School, Oxford, 1934-59, and Warden of Denman College (National Federation of Women's Institutes), 1959-64, died on January 1 at the age of 81.



Antitrust trial to go ahead

A United States district court has ordered that the Justice Department's civil antitrust case to break up the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. should go to trial as planned on January 15, despite a request by both sides for a postponement because of what the court called agreement on a framework for a settlement.

Lawyers for both sides made the request orally to Judge Harold H. Greene, who has been prodding the parties to move faster in the six-year-old Sherman Act case.

Judge Greene denied the request in a partly worded six-page order issued hours after AT & T and Mr Sanford M. Litvack, the assistant attorney general, confirmed a report published in the Washington Star that settlement talks had been under way and had made progress.

The judge said he was refusing to postpone the start of the trial because he regarded the settlement talks as incomplete.

Tokyo interest plea

The Bank of Japan has been urged to reduce further the official discount rate at an early date from the present 7.25 per cent a year. The request for a rate reduction came separately from Mr Toshio Konoto, director-general of the official Economic Planning Agency, and Mr Shigeo Nagano, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The size of the previous cutbacks by the bank has been considered unsatisfactory by industry leaders.

US surplus expected

Mr C. Fred Bergsten, the United States assistant treasury secretary, said in Washington he expects a current account surplus of \$5,000m (about £2,083m) in 1980, and a surplus of \$10,000m in 1981. The 1980 surplus would be achieved by a \$25,000m deficit in the merchandise trade sector, and a \$30,000m surplus in the services sector, he said.

Alcohol in petrol

M. André Giraud, the French industry minister, will introduce a plan soon to encourage the use of vegetable-based alcohol in petrol, a ministry spokesman said in Paris. The ministry refused to confirm or deny a report that the plan would start with a decree allowing oil companies to dilute petrol with up to 15 per cent alcohol.

Ula field costs mount

BP Petroleum Development of Norway is looking at ways to reduce soaring development costs for the Ula field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, a spokesman said in Oslo. Development costs under present plans could rise by about 40 per cent from original estimates of 7,200m crowns (about £57m).

Uranium pact row

Australian Opposition members have criticised an agreement signed on uranium sales to France on grounds that safeguards were inadequate. Mr Thomas Uren, the former deputy prime minister, described the agreement as a record of gross irresponsibility in nuclear matters.

Honda-Fiat talks

Honda, Japan's fifth-largest car maker, is negotiating an agreement with Fiat of Italy to manufacture motor cycles in Italy. Honda already turns out 3,000 motor cycles a month in Italy through IAP Industrial Corp, which is 56.2 per cent owned by Honda.

Reagan tax cut date

Financial advisers to Mr Ronald Reagan, the American President-elect, have still not decided whether a 10 per cent tax cut for 1981 should begin on January 1 or July 1. Mr Kevin Hopkins, a Reagan administration spokesman, said in Washington.

Swiss retail sales up

Swiss retail sales in November 1980 were 3.6 per cent higher than in October and were up 7.8 per cent from November 1979, the federal government says, noting that the increase resulted from greater sales of food, beverages and tobacco.

Orders index falls

The index of incoming orders for West German manufacturing industry, base 1976, fell 2.9 per cent seasonally adjusted in November after an upwards revised 1.9 per cent October rise, provisional economics ministry figures in Bonn show.

Wine output slump

France's wine production was 17.2 per cent below that of 1979, because of bad weather. French growers produced 63.2 million hectolitres of wine last year, compared with 83.5 million hectolitres in 1979.

Budget deficit steady

The French government's budget deficit for the first 11 months of 1980 stood at 41,590m francs (about £3,880m), only slightly above the shortfall of 41,110m francs in the same period of 1979, the economics ministry said in Paris.

In last quarter 160 businesses on average ceased trading every week

Record number of liquidations

More companies than ever went out of business in 1980, according to Dun & Bradstreet, the business information group. In the final quarter of the year an average of 160 companies a week went into liquidation.

By the end of the year 6,814 companies had gone into liquidation in England and Wales, 30 per cent of them in the final three months of the year. The deepening recession not only put more companies out of business than in any single previous year but also increased commercial debt, and reduced new starts.

Although about 143,000 new firms or partnerships were at least provisionally registered in 1980, of which 67,000 were new companies, Dun & Bradstreet says that a better economic climate would almost certainly have seen more companies emerging.

Meanwhile, the commercial debts of surviving companies passed on for collection to Dun & Bradstreet alone rose above £33m last year, and the number of bankruptcies rose by 10 per cent.

Orders for chemical complex may bring 10,000 man-years of work

By John Huxley

Up to 10,000 man-years of work for process plant suppliers could be provided by orders for the £300m ethylene cracker being built by Esso Chemical at Milford Haven.

Contracts to supply the heavier items of equipment for the complex are expected to be placed in the first quarter of this year, and the value of those for hardware alone is put at about £140m.

The Process Plant Association, whose members have been struggling to survive the gradual drop in orders over recent years, has been pressing hard to ensure that the bulk of these orders are placed in the United Kingdom.

Yesterday, representatives from about 100 process plant companies attended a presentation by Mr Jimmy Knox, Esso's project executive, at which the company's plans for the order were outlined. Lummus, the main contractor, was also represented.

The meeting in London was the first occasion on which in-

dustry leaders have met a large potential client together. Later, the Process Plant Association said that the experiment would be repeated.

Mr Tony Teague, president of the association and a director of Babcock International, said that the meeting had helped to create "the right climate in which our members can market and sell process plant for major projects."

Members now have a much better idea of Esso's requirements and, indeed, of the problems. This is the only petrochemical plant of any real size due for construction in the immediate future and represents as many as 10,000 jobs for 12 months in the process plant industry.

Next week, the association will have talks with officials at the Department of Industry, whose support it has tried to enlist in its campaign to win a large share of the Mossraa contract.

Esso has made it clear that it would prefer, if possible, to place the majority of contracts

in the United Kingdom, and that it sees clear advantages in doing so. Lines of communication with suppliers would be shorter, for example.

However, Mr Knox is understood to have emphasized again the priority attached by Esso to quality, delivery on schedule, and price when ordering.

Among the issues raised by association members was the fact that the competitiveness of British tenders of present domestic and overseas steel prices.

Mr Harry Hornsby, the association's director general, explained that there was confusion over price comparison, although it seemed that some large users of British steel were at a disadvantage when competing with overseas rivals.

However, the British Steel Corporation had indicated that it would help by showing its "flexibility" in its dealings with large users.

The process plant industry has an annual turnover of about £2,000m and employs about 10,000 people.

specified what these lengths may be.

In Scotland and Wales, "even amusement machine manufacturers are chasing small debts owed to them by clubs and amusement arcades," the report says.

More small businessmen in Wales have found a simple answer to their problems and "moved" overnight, leaving a pile of unpaid bills behind.

In Scotland, where orders are well down and textile and engineering businesses are vanishing fast, lack of cash is preventing debts being pursued through the courts.

However, the long list of closures and the lack of orders led to demand for credit falling off in the last two months of 1980, after a steady rise for most of the year.

Business is apparently less buoyant for the business information and do not collect demand for credit in Northern Ireland.

Dun & Bradstreet is exhorting industry to check their customers' credit standing there very carefully, as more companies go into liquidation.

Catherine Gunn

Prices of canned beers set to rise

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

A rise in canned beer prices is the take-home trade, represented largely by the supermarkets, is expected to go through from next month.

In most cases it means the first increase for a year. Prices charged to the take-home trade have been the target of increasing criticism from public house agents, so by next month brewers have been discriminating heavily in favour of the supermarkets in order to increase their individual market shares.

Mr Arnold Elliott, president of the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV), the brewers' trade association, yesterday welcomed the price increases as a "responsible action" by the brewers. But he said it was "not enough".

He barely restored the balance between prices to the take-home trade and public houses, he said, as prices to the supermarkets would hold for a year, those to the public houses would not necessarily do so, he said.

Allied Breweries is raising its canned beer prices and Esso will do the same in the middle of the month. Courage, the Imperial Group subsidiary, is expected to raise prices this month and Whitbread is believed to be considering increases next month.

The wholesale price rises represent increases of around 13 per cent.

Average beer prices in brewery-owned outlets rose by around 21 per cent in the year to last autumn, compared with 12.8 per cent in supermarkets and 14.7 per cent in clubs.

The rise is claimed by Mr Colin Mitchell, a leading drinks analyst at Buckmaster & Moore, the London brokers.

Mr Mitchell has been among those warning that such wide differences in pricing could jeopardise the ties between the NULV and its members. Where the NULV has become increasingly anxious at the number of public house closures. It fears closures will increase this year despite the brewers' moves on prices to supermarkets.

Canned beer, largely sold through supermarkets, accounts for more than 10 per cent of total beer production.

Brewers could still continue to give supermarkets advantages such as low-price promotional offers and longer credit periods. Mr Mitchell has claimed that some brewers have in the past been sold as loss-leaders to supermarkets.

But Mr Mitchell has forecast that more brewery closures are likely, to reduce the imbalance between production and demand. He believes brewers will now offer fewer low-price promotions and less generous credit terms.

The NULV has already noticed some signs of a decline in the corporate sector but a growing belief in the trade that advantageous free trade deals, benefiting the clubs, are on the decline.

The brewers, faced with probable future downturns in production over the next few months are under pressure to improve their individual market shares in the free trade.

M. G. G. Pillai

In Kuala Lumpur.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Broader experience for engineers

From the Executive Secretary of the Council of Engineering Institutions

Sir, Your recent report ("Room at the top for engineers", December 21) on the professional backgrounds of those recently appointed chief executives in British industry disclosed that those with a sales and marketing background are most favoured while engineers do poorly by comparison.

It would be a cause for serious concern if these two routes to the top were to be seen as mutually exclusive. They are not regarded in that light in Germany, for example. Many of the most able German engineers spend part of their working lives engaged in the commercial side of their firms' activities, particularly in marketing and sales. At the same time, the top management of German companies includes a much higher proportion of engineers than is common in the United Kingdom. The combination of engineering and commercial experience makes them widely employable in general management.

It seems unlikely that German industry adopts a policy of giving engineers commercial

experience solely to improve their career prospects. It is much more likely that they see advantage in having strong engineering representation in the highest reaches of management provided the engineers have previous commercial experience. They may also consider the other side of the same coin and conclude that the marketing of high technology products benefits from a direct involvement of engineers.

In the selection of very senior executives, personal qualities are of course as important as professional background and, in any case, the practice in one country may not be entirely relevant to another. However, the disparities in this matter between the United Kingdom and Germany seem striking enough to deserve further study. Perhaps we should be working towards a situation in which more of our executives describe their background as engineering and marketing rather than one or the other.

DENYS WOOD, Council of Engineering Institutions, 2 Little Smith Street, London SW1P 3DL.

Defending home industry

From Mr A. A. Benjamin

Sir, Mr Bourlet's letter (December 30) is an undignified plea for consumerism. He proposes that we could evolve a new CAP (from which Britain suffers agriculturally) for cars, for Britain and, indeed, Europe is not flooded with Japanese cars and others due to the apparently from Brazil and Eastern Europe. He sees Britain as a service economy and quotes Cobden to suggest that protectionism disturbs the peace.

Twenty years of protectionism by many industrialized countries has caused an obvious war that I can recall.

He omits some hard realism. Like the protectionism by the Japanese and many other countries, which has effectively excluded imports while they build up their own industries. Examples are numerous but cars, computers, telecommunications equipment and domestic electronics will do.

Like the fact that there is a real threat that their "service" industries will colonize ours as we have done in the past. Industries are based on a sound home manufacturing structure. An example is the strong advance by Japan and France in telecommunications, banking, international project management, information technology. Heaven forbid if consumerism becomes the dominant trading philosophy in Britain. What we need urgently is significant new investment in highly automated manufacturing to make products which are well designed and innovative and which we can sell

abroad. Furthermore, this investment should be made against a national industrial strategy reached with consensus by government and industry.

Our service industries in the past have flourished because of our manufacturing strength, not in spite of it. If we do not need car manufacturers, soon we shall not need steel, ships, turbines, aero engines, computers, electronics, etc—they will always be "relatively" (this word) cheaper elsewhere, because consumerism does not account for strategic capability, employment, technology spin-off and asset building within the nation.

Mr Bourlet's letter reminds me of the real danger. This lies in the concept that if one buys a product cheaper from a state-subsidized, protectionist government somewhere, then that is preferable to the development and rebuilding of our own industries. Rich investment trusts, with their earnings coming from overseas investments, will then pay the pensions of a sullen, cynical, largely unemployed British people, who will have no spare money to buy the cheaper imported consumerism Mr Bourlet applauds.

Neither British nor European industry will then pay the concepts preached by Mr Bourlet—they are too preoccupied generating the wealth to sustain and build the service industries of the future.

A. A. BENJAMIN, The Chequers, West End Lane, Pinner.

Credit card surcharges

From Mr F. H. Aldous

Sir, As a major petrol retailer, we question the principle behind the surcharge on credit transactions currently being imposed by many petrol filling stations. It is doubtful whether this was the immediate intention of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and we are surprised that the Motor Agents Association, which we, in content, disagree when recommending that credit card companies should abandon the "non-discrimination" clause in favour of allowing traders the right to fix a differential price for goods and services bought by credit card.

In the light of the fact that no decision has been reached on the commission's report, which is only now being discussed by the Office of Fair Trading, it is unfortunate that various petrol retailers, who are not petrol retailers, have supported by such organizations as the Motor Agents Association, are penalizing the motorist who pays for his petrol by credit card.

Why should a surcharge of 15p to 25p be introduced now when for years petrol filling stations have been accepting credit cards which account for an average 20 per cent to 25 per cent of revenue. After all, credit cards are an established and acceptable means of payment. It remains to be seen whether or not the commission's recommendations are implemented, but for the present it appears their report has provided the petrol retailer with yet another excuse for a surcharge.

FREDRICK ALDOUS, Swan National Limited, London W4 4EH.

vice he or she should expect by right upon entering the forecourt.

It is hardly surprising that having taken the decision ourselves not to levy a surcharge, we have recorded an increase in volume sales: with new customers, in particular, coming from motorists refusing to pay the surcharge.

But while we totally reject the idea of a surcharge, we nevertheless support the argument for a reduction in the rate of commission charge to petrol retailers by the credit card companies. Two to 3 per cent is definitely too high, particularly in the case of smaller filling stations who pay about 2.9 per cent. We would rather see the rate of commission reduced to 1 per cent, and it is to this end that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission should have made their recommendations.

At the present time, credit card companies charge a commission out of proportion to the work conducted. Much of the administration and documentation, claimed by the credit card companies to justify the 2 or 3 per cent commission, is more than shared by the petrol filling station. In addition, the credit card companies receive unpaid, widespread exposure via the petrol station, the credit card company, and the petrol retailer.

It remains to be seen whether or not the commission's recommendations are implemented, but for the present it appears their report has provided the petrol retailer with yet another excuse for a surcharge.

FREDRICK ALDOUS, Swan National Limited, London W4 4EH.

Origins of building societies

From Mr John Girklin

Sir, In his letter (December 30) Mr W. Lunn, a building society manager, asked a very revealing question: "Why are we in the building societies different?"

Like some other people in the building society "movement", he seems to have forgotten that these societies grew up in the nineteenth century as cooperative institutions under the control of their members and strongly motivated by mutual principles.

Current legislation is based on the assumption that they are still in practice mutual institutions. This is why they benefit from various privileges not available to banks or other companies. However, building societies have gradually left behind their mutual roots. Branch managers tend to adopt a paternalistic attitude to members. The interests of members, which ought to be paramount, are often subordinated to those of the societies' "business connections" as previous correspondence has shown.

At the top of every society sits a board of directors. These self-perpetuating oligarchies are made up of people who are invited on to the boards by existing directors. A major qualification seems to be that they are friends of one or two existing board members. No ordinary member stands a chance of being elected.

Similarly, the ordinary member finds it extremely difficult to find out about his society's affairs. It is even more difficult to influence them. Most annual general meetings are purely formal events with only perfunctory reports to the membership.

Not surprisingly, building society directors and their employees like Mr Lunn have forgotten—or have decided to ignore—why building societies ought to be different.

Yours faithfully, JOHN H. GIRKLIN, 63, DUMFRIES PARK DRIVE, Broadstairs, Kent.

Our service industries in the past have flourished because of our manufacturing strength, not in spite of it. If we do not need car manufacturers, soon we shall not need steel, ships, turbines, aero engines, computers, electronics, etc—they will always be "relatively" (this word) cheaper elsewhere, because consumerism does not account for strategic capability, employment, technology spin-off and asset building within the nation.

Mr Bourlet's letter reminds me of the real danger. This lies in the concept that if one buys a product cheaper from a state-subsidized, protectionist government somewhere, then that is preferable to the development and rebuilding of our own industries. Rich investment trusts, with their earnings coming from overseas investments, will then pay the pensions of a sullen, cynical, largely unemployed British people, who will have no spare money to buy the cheaper imported consumerism Mr Bourlet applauds.

Neither British nor European industry will then pay the concepts preached by Mr Bourlet—they are too preoccupied generating the wealth to sustain and build the service industries of the future.

A. A. BENJAMIN, The Chequers, West End Lane, Pinner.

vice he or she should expect by right upon entering the forecourt.

It is hardly surprising that having taken the decision ourselves not to levy a surcharge, we have recorded an increase in volume sales: with new customers, in particular, coming from motorists refusing to pay the surcharge.

But while we totally reject the idea of a surcharge, we nevertheless support the argument for a reduction in the rate of commission charge to petrol retailers by the credit card companies. Two to 3 per cent is definitely too high, particularly in the case of smaller filling stations who pay about 2.9 per cent. We would rather see the rate of commission reduced to 1 per cent, and it is to this end that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission should have made their recommendations.

At the present time, credit card companies charge a commission out of proportion to the work conducted. Much of the administration and documentation, claimed by the credit card companies to justify the 2 or 3 per cent commission, is more than shared by the petrol filling station. In addition, the credit card companies receive unpaid, widespread exposure via the petrol station, the credit card company, and the petrol retailer.

It remains to be seen whether or not the commission's recommendations are implemented, but for the present it appears their report has provided the petrol retailer with yet another excuse for a surcharge.

FREDRICK ALDOUS, Swan National Limited, London W4 4EH.

Yours faithfully, ANNE PIGGOTT, Head of Business Records, Business Archives Council, Denmark House, 15 Tooley Street, London SE1 2NP.

From Mr J. Whelan

Sir, With reference to the recent letters regarding credit cards versus cash, may I suggest National Giro transfers.

No cheque charges, state-ments name the payee, unlike normal bank statements, overnight clearance for the payee, in my experience a very civilized method of payment. I was just about to point out I was introduced to it by the banks refusal to accept electricity bill payments.

Yours faithfully, J. WHELAN, 41 Princess Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B5 7PU.

From Mr Roderick C. Ogley

Sir, As we enter a new decade we should be looking at the future, and not just that of our own country. One major determinant of whether our children and grandchildren will enjoy a relatively peaceful world will be whether we can negotiate to them global institutions in whose workings all states would have an incentive to collaborate because all would benefit from success.

In 1980 the long-drawn-out Law of the Sea Conference came close to producing a convention which if generally ratified, will create an organization unique, so far, in our global history, the International Sea-Bed Authority.

This will regulate and supervise private and state exploitation of the international area of the sea-bed and also, through an organ called the Enterprise, will engage in ocean mining.

At Geneva, in August, more than a hundred states, including all the major powers, expressed satisfaction with progress made at the latest session, and a draft convention emerged, which, with minor refinements, to be negotiated at New York this spring, could be adopted by consensus and ceremonially signed at Caracas later in the year.

This achievement, which might, from some future perspective, go down as a landmark in the evolution of an international organization, is imperilled both by the uncertainties surrounding the attitudes of the new American administration on the issue, and by the insistence of some technologically advanced states on using national legislation to provide for the mining of what is regarded as international territory.

Understandably, those that now import the minerals in question (mainly nickel, copper, cobalt and manganese) will not wait for a treaty; but national solutions will not only condemn the world to missing a great opportunity for constructive political action; they will also fail to assure the miners of what they need—undisputed rights to mine a specific site exclusively for a specified period.

Let us all make sure, then, that 1981 is the year of the Law of the Sea Treaty, that if there must be national legislation, it is compatible with that treaty and the mode of allocating sites under it, and that the Reagan administration is persuaded to throw its weight, as past administrations of both parties have done, behind the kind of treaty which can secure general acceptance at the conference (which means one in more, or less its present form); and that the Senate, and its counterparts elsewhere, are in due course persuaded to ratify it. No one would claim that the treaty is perfect, but it could contribute to making a better world. The alternative is a chaotic and worldwide disillusionment.

RODERICK C. OGLEY, 4 King Henry's Road, Lewes.

Stewards 'unhappy' on Leyland strike vote

By Clifford Webb

Workers at Leyland Vehicles' Albion plant, near Glasgow, yesterday voted by a narrow majority to strike if management adopted compulsory measures to achieve 380 redundancies.

But shop stewards were not happy with the poor overall turnout at the meeting and the small majority of 43 for strike action. Only 820 of the 2,500 workforce attended the meeting.

Mr Jim McLean, shop stewards' convenor, said the vote was too close to give stewards a clear mandate for action. The indications are that it will not be put to the test. Management is confident that on past experience it will find sufficient volunteers.

The meeting called for additional short-time working as an alternative to redundancies but this had already been taken into account when the redundancies were announced last month.

The present one-week-on and one-week-off system affecting 80 per cent of the workforce is to be extended to everyone.

A spokesman for Leyland Vehicles, the commercial vehicle arm of BL, said, "Albion has a very important role in our recovery plans."

Some £7m will be invested there to modernize and prepare the way for a new gearbox complex which will go into production in 1982.

The Albion redundancies are among a total of 2,600 scheduled for Leyland Vehicles factories by the end of the year. They include 800 at Bathgate, West Lothian, the group's medium truck plant, and 1,400 at three plants in Lancashire which produce the heaviest range.

Oil taxes threatening future investment

By Nicholas Hirst

Higher taxes on oil production, such as those recently announced by the British Government on North Sea output, could threaten future oil company investment.

Mr Dirk de Bruyne, head of the Royal Dutch/Shell group, said in London yesterday that the oil industry worldwide was investing £1.90 for every \$1 of profit it made. It was prepared to continue doing so if it was allowed to operate within a secure fiscal framework which allowed assessment of potential risk and return.

But in recent years governments have raised taxes on oil, expectedly, restricted exploration and held down prices of products to uneconomic levels.

The recent decision of the United Kingdom Government to impose a 20 per cent supplementary oil revenue tax on North Sea producers was one example, he said.

In Bahrain, Mr David Howell, the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Energy, said that the British Government's policy of tax commitment to reduce dependency on imported oil.

Addressing the Bahrain Society of Engineers during a brief visit to Gulf states, he said that one benefit from the Iran/Iraq war was that the consumers had been able to show the producers that they had profited from the lessons of 1973 and 1979.

Mr Dirk de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.



Mr Dirk de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

political State for Energy, said that the British Government's policy of tax commitment to reduce dependency on imported oil.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

China Clays at the top

English China Clays' full-year pretax profits of £40.5m were 22 per cent up on last time, but, nevertheless, point to a sharp decline in the second half. Taking the year as a whole, china clay output, still the backbone of the company, held up better than expected but still fell by about 1.4m tonnes to 2.66m. Pretax profits in this division rose by 8.6 per cent to £25.5m, helped by price increases of around 20 per cent at the beginning of the year and an unusually good September.

But it was the company's other activities which were vital. Quarries pushed up profits by 41 per cent to £9.9m; building, recovering from the setbacks of 1979, contributed £1.6m against £196,000; and transport and services went up by 26 per cent to £3.4m. Building's figures are deceptive because most of the

performance from United Kingdom rentals—still far and away the major source of profit. Pre-interest profits were 3 per cent up at £12.6m but adding back £3.5m exceptional rationalization costs to the previous year gives a truer picture.

Overseas rental did a little better in the first half because of the Rentacolor acquisitions but camping and leisure turned round to losses and is being slimmed. Group pretax profits for the first half ran out at £7.4m against £5.5m (after exceptional costs).

After racing ahead to 99p the shares closed only 2p higher after hours at 92p where the yield on a maintained dividend is 6.7 per cent. The second half will remain difficult and ERG is still having problems getting enough videos to rent out. But the potential of this market plus the interest rate factor make a good case for the shares in the longer term.

No investor has lost money since the State Building Society collapse in the 1950s, but the movement's reputation for being as safe as houses has been tarnished in the past five years by the unfolding scandals at the Wakefield Building Society and the Grays Building Society, currently under police investigation, will be modest by comparison, but arguably more worrying.

After the major defalcations unearthed at the Grays and the subsequent remedial action proposed by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, the accountancy profession and Whitehall, it is, at first glance, unthinkable that within two years of the investigation of the Grays, another building society should apparently be finding skeletons in the cupboard.

But in fact the insistence of the Registrar for better internal controls which he has backed by visits to all societies with assets between £2m-£25m and the new guidelines proposed by the accountancy bodies at the end of last year, were designed to expose (and remedy) inefficiencies, or worse.

However, although the movement has certainly proved, yet again, that it can rescue its own, the Government's decision to back away from promised legislation for societies is to be regretted. Greater controls to back up the work of the Registrar and the accountants would still not come amiss.

Hickson & Welch

Under pressure

ICI is temporarily losing money and Fisons' dividend is in peril. So the modest fall in pretax profits from £8m to £6.5m in the year to last September but maintained dividend from Hickson & Welch brought a sigh of relief to the sector. The shares hardened 1p to 141p.

But the point about Hickson is not that it is weathering recession rather well, but that this highly rated chemical group with interests in timber preserving and building materials is now ex-growth. Hickson is not in fact coping with the downturn. In the first half of last year pretax profits went ahead by 15.5 per cent to £4.4m, so it only made £2.1m in the second six months. Redundancy and termination costs are a total of £393,000 but the figure will obviously swell if trade refuses to pick up and at present the group is making full use of the Government subsidy for short time working. It has however been quick to suspend capital spending and cut borrowing. But the price was a leap in tax from £437,000 to £3.2m as capital allowances disappeared, and earnings a share more than halved to 17p.

Hickson itself sees no end to recession for at least six months and its two big problems, a strong pound and expensive gas, are not likely to go away. The fear must be that Hickson will have lost important markets by the time business eventually picks up.

Timber preserving has probably raised its share of total profits to half, but chemical profits are still falling, and the pretax treatment since 1976-77 peak of £10.1m speaks for itself. There are better returns than its 7.6 per cent yield from more interesting chemical companies.

The man who shook Wall Street

Joe Granville likes to compare his stock market analysis with the way scientists predict earthquakes. But now a dashed Wall Street is wondering whether Mr Granville predicts financial earthquakes or causes them.

On Tuesday the market had looked unstoppable with the Dow Jones average soaring through the 1,000 barrier. Then at one stage on Wednesday it was down 31 points from Tuesday's close and ended the day down 23.80 points, at 980.89.

The man who was solely responsible for the carnage was Joseph Granville. Acting on his instructions 30 telephone operators were working from 8.30 on Tuesday night to 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning calling his 3,000 clients with a message as blunt as it was simple: "Sell everything".

They were the lucky ones. They had paid at least \$500 a year to be members of the Florida-based Financial Early Warning System. Mr Granville has 10,000 other clients who learnt to their cost what happens when you pay Mr Granville only \$250.

Newsletter

For that money they receive a weekly newsletter and many of them would have just been opening a book about the same time that privileged Early Warning System members were preparing to torpedo the market on Mr Granville's updated advice.

"Do some aggressive buying," the 57-year-old millionaire wrote confidently. "The market is signalling a sharp upward swing, and most groups look set to respond vigorously."

"The most important thing to know here is that most stocks are set to advance and the probability states that regardless of what you buy right here, it will be higher several weeks from now."

Mr Granville allowed his letter to go to press last Friday. Yesterday he was unrepentant in explaining what had happened.

"When we wrote the letter the Dow closed (on Friday) at 963.39 and we wrote that right here, it was a piece of cake," he told the Wall Street Journal. "Well, the intraday high on Tuesday was 1013.13, and you can't call them any better than that. But the market left absolutely no doubt on Tuesday that it was giving us a sell signal."

Accuracy

Over the past few years Mr Granville's system of technical analysis has brought him a national reputation for accuracy in predicting the market. He has made his money by selling that advice.

He enhances his reputation by flying all over the country from his home in Holly Hill, Florida, to give lectures accompanied by flamboyant displays of showmanship—to investment groups. Last year he covered 5,000 miles a week.

His basic message is that "the market always tells you where it is going." During particularly energetic performances he has been known to burst on to the stage carrying a large balloon and shouting to his audience: "How high is the market going? The balloon releases the balloon to illustrate his point, possibly following up with a song and dance routine.

There is no doubt that Mr Granville has a large following. He has been called "the Christened Granville" by some Wall Street dealers—and that his advice in recent years has more often been right than wrong.

But the question remains: does Joe Granville predict the effect or cause it? He admits neither. He says he is "a growing, following, some degree of self-fulfilling prophecy is inescapable," he says.

Nigel Nelson

Ivor Davis Shadows on the silver screen

Hollywood

It seemed like a winner. Superstar Barbra Streisand in a musical with story by Isaac Bashevis Singer, the Nobel prize winner. Ms Streisand was even going to direct herself. They were all ready to go with a budget of around \$17m—then the studio pulled the plug.

Yet it is a picture which unless alternative financing can be found will not now be made. The disintegration of a project starring the world's number one box office female star would seem surprising if it were not that it came at the end of a year which was one of the worst for Hollywood in living memory.

First an expensive actors' strike crippled the studios for weeks and cost them millions of dollars. But even more important 1980 may well go down in film history as the year of the big flops culminating in the debacle over *Heaven's Gate*, \$40m extravaganza-western by Michael Cimino. Director of the Oscar winning *Deer Hunter*. His epic turned out to be 3½ hours of self-indulgence and Cimino is now reediting it in an attempt to salvage something.

But his film was only the worst example in a long list of duds. Coming closely behind was Steven Spielberg's 1941. The director of *Jaws* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* persuaded Universal Pictures to give him an unlimited budget for a spoof movie on the anti-Japanese hysteria on the West Coast after Pearl Harbour. The resulting film was a noisy, chaotic undisciplined disaster.

Then there was *The Blues Brothers*, a picture directed by another young "genius", John Landis, whose earlier *Animal House* had taken in over \$100m. Landis was given a free hand and \$35m to try to repeat his earlier success. The picture was rushed out its offerings for Oscar consideration. Some of them have joined the list of over-inflated productions.

The Jazz Singer, which cost \$15m and with pop singer Neil Diamond making his screen debut opposite Laurence Olivier in an updated version of the first talking picture, the 1927 John classic, is artistically disappointing, though it seems that the popularity of Diamond's music is rescuing it at the box office.

Despite the poor reviews EMI says that the film is doing brisk business and that in the

first 17 days in some 228 cinemas in North America it grossed \$8.3m. By mid-February it will be seen in more than 300 cinemas and after a royal premiere in London on January 29, it will open in Britain.

Robert Altman's \$30m *Popeye* musical, an unlikely liaison between Paramount studios and Walt Disney Pictures, starring Robin Williams, the television comedian, has made its appearance with unmemorable music and sometimes unrecognisable dialogue. Early box office returns, however, indicate the film is doing good business.

which says if you have the right star, the right director and a big budget you can't miss—never mind the script.

It was the reasoning behind the Jazz Singer, 1941, *When Nature Calls*, starring Paul Newman and Jacqueline Bisset, and *Xanadu*, a musical featuring Olivia Newton John and Gene Kelly. And it is a formula that just is not working.

Mr Norbert Auerbach, newly appointed president of United Artists argues that overspending on films like his company's (*Heaven's Gate*) is not an aberration but symptomatic of an industry-wide ailment: "We

the overseas sales. That kind of arrangement is becoming more common in Hollywood when a studio wants to spread the risk factor.

In some cases film producers have covered their budget even before the first day of filming. They simply get guarantees from various countries, as well as guarantees for the sale of the finished product to television and cable companies.

Mr Charles Powell, a marketing specialist, blames overblown marketing budgets for the high costs of films. He says that studios spend millions selling a film often in a vain effort to protect their huge investments. The Motion Picture Association of America reports that the average cost of making a picture today is \$6.5m—while the average amount spent on promoting a film is \$5.5m.

"Many companies spend more on marketing than making films," Mr Powell says. He adds: "Television commercials are bleeding us to death. Studios are paying \$100,000 for a 30-second television spot—it's crazy. What ever happened to the old style publicity stunts where you got free space?"

Mr Auerbach of Box Office points out that another aggravating factor is the enormous salaries demanded and paid to big stars. "These days having a star in your film doesn't necessarily guarantee success. Audiences won't go to see a star if the film isn't popular," he says.

Christopher Reeve, the silver screen's "Superman", is one star who opposes the over-inflated salaries and he practices what he preaches. He recently took a large salary cut to star in the low budget romantic film *Someone in Time*.

"There is something terribly wrong with the film business," says Reeve: "when on one hand you see millions thrown away on awful movies, and on the other someone like David Lean, who has never made a bad picture, can't raise enough money to make his next film *Mazzy Star*."

Paul Monash, producer of one of Hollywood's most successful pictures, *Baruch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, does not, however, believe that Hollywood has lost its touch or is heading for complete disaster.

"I think we're fighting it a tough one, more than ever before. I'm amazed we do survive with competition from cable TV, electronic games and everything else vying for the theatre going public. Today it's just a whole different economic ballgame."

Hollywood hopes in 1981 to avoid the mistakes which made last year one of the worst ever experienced by its film industry

Little wonder then that the studios are running scared. According to the trade paper *Daily Variety*, box office receipts for last summer's season were down 25 per cent, which may not sound like much, but as Mr Alexander Adams, editor of the influential Hollywood journal *Box Office* points out, "With an inflation rate of 13 per cent that's the equivalent of being down 151 per cent on 1979's grosses."

Everywhere in the film industry a great deal of head scratching is going on as well as a slightly hysterical attempt to apportion blame. First to fall will undoubtedly be the director, the young genius of the moment, who makes one flop after another, or the studio funding the picture. In some cases independent producers get their own funding but are given financial guarantees from a major studio which will then buy the film from the producer for an agreed amount.

"In most cases the majors put their own money on the line," says *Box Office's* Mr Auerbach. As in the case of *Popeye*, Paramount and Disney shared the cost in a deal that gave Paramount the box office take from North America and Disney

are going to have to deal with that particular problem just as everybody else should, otherwise we're going to have a catastrophic situation in our industry."

As a result the big Hollywood studios intend to keep a tight financial rein in 1981. But even the film factories that have suffered the biggest losses from pictures—like Universal Studios—have not gone out of business. They have been able to cushion flops because of large portfolios of films, either playing or in the works at any given time, which can pay the rent for the unsuccessful pictures.

This year most films are again being made in the traditional manner, with studios funding the picture. In some cases independent producers get their own funding but are given financial guarantees from a major studio which will then buy the film from the producer for an agreed amount.

"In most cases the majors put their own money on the line," says *Box Office's* Mr Auerbach.

As in the case of *Popeye*, Paramount and Disney shared the cost in a deal that gave Paramount the box office take from North America and Disney

Technology

How Ireland is finding fresh use for its peat bogs

Ireland, with the help of the European Economic Community, is pioneering the development of biomass—renewable, short-generation trees—as an energy source for the future.

Bord na Mona (the Irish Peat Development Authority) and the National Board for Science and Technology are co-operating in a £17.7m (£5.5m) demonstration project. The EEC is providing 40 per cent of the money.

Mr Jeremiah Healy, land development manager for Bord na Mona, says that 1,000 acres are in production. Research began in 1975 and the trees were planted in 1977.

The experiment—from which Mr Healy says it is hoped to have enough information by the end of the year—will be divided between conifers, which would have to be replanted after harvesting, and hardwood trees, which can be "copied", or grown like grass, at intervals.

The Electricity Supply Board, another public agency, is also involved. It is converting a power plant in the far-western

region of Connemara to run on biomass. The peat board's participation can be explained by the fact that Ireland's expanses of peat bogs have been judged to be excellent places to grow biomass—once the peat has been removed. Ireland has three million acres of bogs, but expects to exhaust this resource by the year 2020.

Mr Healy says that a harvesting machine for biomass now exists "on paper" and should be ready in 1981, two years before the first crop is due. Mr Frank Lunney, a consultant working for the National Board for Science and Technology, believes that biomass could eventually supply a quarter of Ireland's energy needs. He says that the country's heavy rainfall and long frost-free season are points in its favour.

Mr Lunney says that the Irish experiment is attracting attention from abroad, and cites Sweden and Finland as two examples. In the United States, he adds, there is interest in

making more efficient use of the wood from natural forests. The city of Burlington, Vermont, is generating electricity from wood, he says.

Mr Lunney has doubts about the conifer biomass. He likes the hardwood variety, because of its ability to regrow after being cut to the stump.

"You can cut these stumps again after four years and new sprouts will come. It is thought that you can go on doing that for 30 years—more or less—before the roots lose their vigour and you have to replant."

As for the output, Mr Lunney says that it "appears that it is not over-optimistic" to hope for a yield of 10 tonnes of dry matter for each acre a year. That figure corresponds to about 3 tonnes of oil.

Only 5 per cent of Ireland's land is forested, against an average of 20 per cent for EEC countries as a whole. "We are the last major country in the EEC," Mr Lunney says.

He believes that large tracts of poor agricultural land in counties Leitrim, Mayo, Clare and Kerry would be "ideal" for a yield of 10 tonnes of dry matter for each acre a year. That would be a big bonus as it would be added bogland as it becomes available.

He says that a peat bog produces four times as much energy as a piece of land of the same size devoted to biomass. But whereas biomass goes on

forever peat can only be used once. Mr Lunney says that biomass, with its lower sulphur content, involves much less air pollution than coal. The job of the grower is also easier than it would be if he were cultivating other crops.

All the grower has to think about is volume. Worries about such things as protein content can be left to the food farmer.

Mr Healy and Mr Lunney are cautious men, more inclined to the technical than the lyrical. Indeed, Mr Healy says, a large part of his job is to "dampen down this enthusiasm" that has been shown by less realistic laymen.

Mr Lunney points out that no new energy source is going to provide the whole answer to any country's problems. Each will just have to be added to the mix of alternatives.

The future of biomass, he says, will also depend on "a lot of political decisions". For example, it has not even been determined yet what agency will be responsible for its development in Ireland.

But Mr Lunney is hopeful, both about the prospects for biomass and Ireland's role in developing it. "I think that if we play our cards right we could be the lead country in biomass production."

Robert O'Connor

Business Diary: On account of Dr Johnson

Oxford To the University, at the invitation of William Hyde. I called on him not at his college (he is a fellow of Linacre) but at Pembroke, one of his other 39.

Hyde is secretary to the Oxford University Chest (the university's kitty) and he is also president of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants.

I found him at Pembroke, chairing a symposium he had set up to bring together day-to-day practitioners of management accounting and ICMA members who hold chairs of accountancy. I was delighted to see that two of the academics were called Risk and Tricker.

Hyde is known to the City for a spell as a director of Schroders and as author of the Hyde Guidelines prepared by the Accounting Standards Committee.

Pembroke is not only known, but interesting to me as the college of Dr Johnson, although it must be said that Dr Johnson was not too interested in accounting.

Boswell once told him of a lady who refused to keep family accounts for her husband since she did not go over the budget. "Sir," said the doctor, "it is fit that she should keep an account, because her husband wishes it: but I do not see its use."

Having said hello to Hyde as he and his accountants (all

of them men) went into conclave, I paid my respects to the bursar of Pembroke, Colin Leach.

Leach has an office on the first floor immediately above the porter's lodge and immediately below "Dr Johnson's room". I found him working on a computerized cash flow projection for Pembroke, its first.

He is the man for the job, for until two years ago he was managing director of Ariel, the Accepting Houses' computerized share-dealing alternative to the Stock Exchange.

Within a week of starting a new job Leach was rung by an Oxford friend and asked if he knew that the Pembroke bursarship was going. He didn't, as it was closing day for applications, he got in touch right away and piped more than 100 others to the post.

What, I asked Leach, was the attraction of Oxford over the City? "Very high intelligence in a large number of people one meets and works with," he replied, "and a far less, I think, grasping attitude to life. I found as I worked in the City I more and more wanted to be here."

How, after 22 years in the City, did he invest the college's cash?

"Having regard, always, as I must do, to short-term cash requirements, I will invest in equities where I think there is either long-term growth, or which I like to think is my own

speciality, invest in bombed-out recovery stocks."

At my insistence Leach tipped Courtaulds and Chubb as two examples. Ariel, whose future he is secure only until the end of March, is, I suggested, "bombed-out." Was it "recovery"?

Here Leach hesitated and then said he would have speculated for me had he not recently discussed the matter with the present MD of Ariel, Garry Arnott, so he would rather not.

"I think the concept remains a very good one," he added. Why then, I went on, did it not work better?

The reason, Leach said, is "the absence of a market-maker—a jobber, if you like—someone who would be there at the right moment to take stock that was on offer or to supply stock that was wanted."

"Time after time on Ariel

Wallchart

WHO SAYS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESSES?

CLYN WALL

I KNOW OF AT LEAST FIVE MAJOR COMPANIES THAT HAVE BECOME SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS!

I would see in the morning that there's a subscriber buying ICI, in the afternoon selling ICI, because they didn't get together, because they were both at 20,000 shares, both at 340p, but at the wrong time."

A former classics don at Brasenose, Leach is now bringing out with the American poet James Michie a new edition of Euripides' play *Helen*.

It was to the theatre, with a tragedy called *Irene*, that Dr Johnson looked after leaving Pembroke without a degree in 1731. His father's book-selling business was failing and so Johnson had to go.

I took up the theme of theatre over lunch in hall with Hyde, because Oxford's Playhouse is one of the university assets administered by the Chest. He told me that the future of Playhouse, like that of Ariel, was under review. It is losing about £50,000 a year and the

curators of the Chest are preparing a report which will go to the Hebdomadal Council this spring.

Closure, Hyde went on, was a possibility. "But on the other hand we spend a lot of money on the Bodleian Library, with all its huge number of volumes, and on other libraries throughout Oxford, so isn't it important that there should be a place where Shakespeare's plays can be heard, rather than reading the book of the play?"

Over dinner I met Jack Shaw, who brought to mind Dr Johnson's joke that "the noblest prospect which a Scotchman ever sees is the high road that leads him to England."

This was not the case with Shaw, a Scot who was at Pembroke not to get away from Scotland but to deliver a paper to his ICMA fellows on "Accountability—Corporate

Governance and the Management Accountant."

Shaw has both feet planted firmly in his native heather, one as Professor of Accountancy at the University of Edinburgh as senior partner in the office here of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells.

He said that his was about the only one of the 40 or so accountancy chairs in the country which required the incumbent to practice what he preached, and this was one reason why the professors and the practitioners were so often at odds.

"Anybody who tries to build a bridge gets shot at by chaps from both sides," he told me. The college's head porter, John Jefferson, showed me Dr Johnson's room, now occupied by a Mr J. W. Hall, and added that Mr Hall's "father was at Pembroke, too, strangely enough, but not in that room."

I found one member of the college who was still showing visitors to the wrong room and another who had not long got it right. "I must have shown dozens of Americans the wrong place," he said.

I would like to think that Pembroke will go on showing Americans the wrong Dr Johnson's room. Did not the doctor himself say of them: "Sir, they are a race of convicts and ought to be thankful for anything we allow them, short of hanging?"

Ross Davies

JESSUPS

Main Dealers for Vauxhall, Bedford, Opel and Ford, Leasing Specialists and Commercial Vehicle Body Builders

| | Year to 31st August | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| | 1980 | 1979 |
| | £000s | £000s |
| Turnover | 31,685 | 30,000 |
| (Loss)/Profit before tax | (250) | 830 |
| Dividend per share | 2p | 3p |
| Net Assets per share | 94p | 103p |

* Loss indicates combination of adverse factors in most difficult year.

* Ford's market dominance maintained and Group improved sales. Vauxhall and Bedford ranges comprehensive and attractive.

* Losses on leasing follow conservative valuation of fleet and high interest rates.

* Although an early return to past profit levels cannot be anticipated, dividend policy demonstrates good long-term prospect.

Copies of Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Jessups (Holdings) Limited, London Road, Romford, Essex RM7 9QS. Telephone: Romford 22311

VAUXHALL • BEDFORD • OPEL • FORD

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was steady—Afternoon—Copper futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

WHEAT was steady—Afternoon—Wheat futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

SOYBEANS were steady—Afternoon—Soybean futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

MAIZE was steady—Afternoon—Maize futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

COFFEE was steady—Afternoon—Coffee futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

TEA was steady—Afternoon—Tea futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

SPICES were steady—Afternoon—Spice futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

FRUIT was steady—Afternoon—Fruit futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

VEGETABLES were steady—Afternoon—Vegetable futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

MEAT was steady—Afternoon—Meat futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

FISH was steady—Afternoon—Fish futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

OTHER was steady—Afternoon—Other futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

Record turnover for London 'soft' markets

Turnover value on London's 'soft' commodity markets reached a record £58,700m in 1980, compared with £31,900m in 1979, with the main activity occurring in sugar, coffee, and rubber.

The previous 'high' was £45,900m, reached in 1977. The number of lots traded in 1980 rose to 4.4m from 3.3m in the previous year.

On the sugar market, a record 1.1m lots of Number Two 'raws' were traded in 1980 before it expired with the October contract, compared with 855,427 lots traded in 1979. The Number Four 'raws' contract saw business of 1.4m lots, against a previous 16,976.

Robusta coffee turnover totalled 1.1m lots in 1980, down by 263,313 from the 1979 total. Robusta coffee traded were 647,397, compared with the previous 839,751.

Potatoes, traded since June 1980 last year, had a turnover of 9,929 lots.

Lots traded in other commodities in 1980 were as follows: wheat, 1.1m; barley, 1.1m; oats, 1.1m; maize, 1.1m; soybeans, 1.1m; cotton, 1.1m; wool, 1.1m; hides, 1.1m; skins, 1.1m; metals, 1.1m; minerals, 1.1m; and other, 1.1m.

Discount market

The Bank of England gave help on a small scale to relieve a shortage of funds in the discount market yesterday, buying Treasury bills and eligible bank bills direct from the houses. Money moved very slowly throughout the afternoon, with the authorities ready to provide all the help needed, rates came away to 10 per cent in places, though the main range for the close was 12 to 13 per cent.

Foreign exchange report

The foreign exchange market continued to trade in subdued fashion yesterday, with the dollar making useful headway, but sterling, in common with other major currencies, conceding some ground. At the close, the pound showed an 85-point fall at 52,404, compared with 52,433 overnight, but its trade-weighted index remained firmly underpinned, unchanged throughout at 79.0. Initially, the dollar moved ahead in response to higher European rates, but in rather uncertain trading normal volume was missing and the rise was often exaggerated.

The 20 per cent prime rates (including Chase Manhattan) announced yesterday afternoon had little effect on the dollar. Dealers were inclined to view the 2.57 point cut as confirmation that the 18 per cent Chemical Bank prime rate (announced on Tuesday) as being rather out of line and that rates seem at least for the short-term to have 'bottomed out'.

The D-mark weakened in dollar terms to 1.9625 from 1.9455.

Sterling Spot and Forward

Market rates (day forward) 1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Market rates (spot) 1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971, was 78.8% unchanged

Other Markets

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Money Market

Bank of England 14% (last changed 2/11/80) Clearing Bank Rate 1% Week Fixed 1.75-1.76

1 month 1.75-1.76 3 months 1.76-1.77 6 months 1.77-1.78 12 months 1.78-1.79

Indices

Bank of England 14% (last changed 2/11/80) Clearing Bank Rate 1% Week Fixed 1.75-1.76

1 month 1.75-1.76 3 months 1.76-1.77 6 months 1.77-1.78 12 months 1.78-1.79

Dollar Spot Rates

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Money Market Rates

Bank of England 14% (last changed 2/11/80) Clearing Bank Rate 1% Week Fixed 1.75-1.76

1 month 1.75-1.76 3 months 1.76-1.77 6 months 1.77-1.78 12 months 1.78-1.79

EMS Currency Rates

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Euro-Dollar Deposits

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Gold

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

1 month 1.9625-1.9650 3 months 1.9650-1.9675 6 months 1.9675-1.9700 12 months 1.9700-1.9725

Wall Street

New York, Jan 8.—Stock prices closed lower as the New York Stock Exchange index fell 1.09 to 76.20.

The Dow Jones Industrial average lost 15.19 to 953.70 and declined 1.02 to 56.77. Volume contracted to 55.53 million shares from the record 92.89 million traded yesterday.

The steep market fall yesterday came after Mr. J. Granville, who publishes the *Granville Market Letter*, advised clients to sell because the market had 'peaked'.

Experts noted the market was already vulnerable to a setback because of the strong gain over the previous weeks.

The market mounted two week rallies but they proved no match for the selling. When the second rally faltered, the slide quickened and the market closed near 10 per cent down.

There were few bright spots, mainly consumer goods issues. The market had begun to favor before its sharp drop.

Volume leader IBM lost 21 to 67.1. Exxon 24 to 40 and LTV Corp. to 18.1.

Among the active, Mottel added 1 to 27.1. Philip Morris 1 to 41. El Paso 1 to 33.1.

Mobil said it completed tests in its 2-1/2 mile in the Hibernia area off Newfoundland and found it to be the most productive well there. However, Mobil lost 1 to 76.1. Mobil's partners in the well were unchanged to lower.

US commodities

New York, Jan 8.—COPPER futures at 50.75 for the month of January, down 1.00 from 51.75. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

WHEAT was steady—Afternoon—Wheat futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

SOYBEANS were steady—Afternoon—Soybean futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

MAIZE was steady—Afternoon—Maize futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

COFFEE was steady—Afternoon—Coffee futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

TEA was steady—Afternoon—Tea futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

SPICES were steady—Afternoon—Spice futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

FRUIT was steady—Afternoon—Fruit futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

VEGETABLES were steady—Afternoon—Vegetable futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

MEAT was steady—Afternoon—Meat futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

FISH was steady—Afternoon—Fish futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

OTHER was steady—Afternoon—Other futures were steady, with the three-month contract at \$1.05, the one-month at \$1.04, and the six-month at \$1.03. The market was quiet, with no significant trading activity.

| Jan 8 | Jan 7 | Jan 6 | Jan 5 | Jan 4 | Jan 3 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Alcoa | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amalgamated | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amstar | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amphenol | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtek | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtron | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |

| Jan 8 | Jan 7 | Jan 6 | Jan 5 | Jan 4 | Jan 3 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Amalgamated | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amstar | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amphenol | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtek | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtron | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |

| Jan 8 | Jan 7 | Jan 6 | Jan 5 | Jan 4 | Jan 3 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Amalgamated | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amstar | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amphenol | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtek | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtron | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |

| Jan 8 | Jan 7 | Jan 6 | Jan 5 | Jan 4 | Jan 3 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Amalgamated | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amstar | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amphenol | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtek | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amtron | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |
| Amway | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 21.00 |

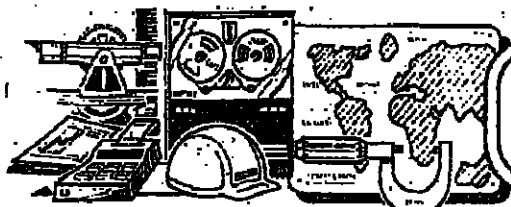
Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

| Authorized Unit Trusts | Insurance | Offshore Funds |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Amalgamated Unit Trust | 1. Amalgamated Insurance | 1. Amalgamated Offshore Fund |
| 2. Amstar Unit Trust | 2. Amstar Insurance | 2. Amstar Offshore Fund |
| 3. Amphenol Unit Trust | 3. Amphenol Insurance | 3. Amphenol Offshore Fund |
| 4. Amtek Unit Trust | 4. Amtek Insurance | 4. Amtek Offshore Fund |
| 5. Amtron Unit Trust | 5. Amtron Insurance | 5. Amtron Offshore Fund |
| 6. Amway Unit Trust | 6. Amway Insurance | 6. Amway Offshore Fund |
| 7. Amway Unit Trust | 7. Amway Insurance | 7. Amway Offshore Fund |
| 8. Amway Unit Trust | 8. Amway Insurance | 8. Amway Offshore Fund |
| 9. Amway Unit Trust | 9. Amway Insurance | 9. Amway Offshore Fund |
| 10. Amway Unit Trust | 10. Amway Insurance | 10. Amway Offshore Fund |

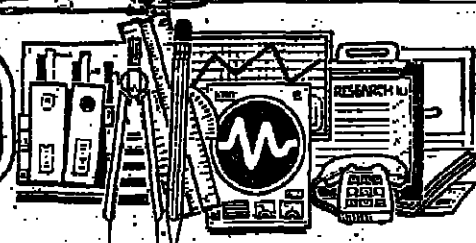
[illegible]

RECRUITING
PORTUGAL

Ring 01-278 91



Recruitment Opportunities



Engineers Overseas Appointments Accountancy Finance Sales Overseas Appointments Accountancy Finance Sales Marketing General Computing Management & Executive Appointments

AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IS LOOKING FOR

INDUSTRIALISTS

of British, Dutch and Irish nationality, with the following qualifications:

- University degrees in Engineering, Business Management or Economics.
 - 10-20 years of industrial experience after graduation having reached a managerial capacity and with experience from more than one industrial sector.
 - Industrial experience from developing countries, particularly Africa, for a minimum of 3 years.
 - Working knowledge in French.
- Work will be related to industrial promotion, industry studies, marketing and technical assistance, to industrial enterprises in developing countries and will involve travel to these countries.
- A few posts are expected to be filled at intermediate and senior or managerial professional level. Good salary in relation to European standards. Workplace: Brussels. Contracts for up to 4 years will be offered to qualified applicants.

APPLY BEFORE JANUARY 15th, 1981, TO BOX 2492 F, THE TIMES.

IMPORTANT NORTH GERMAN AUCTION HOUSE AND ART DEALER SEEKS

Experienced Auctioneer

with a good all-round trade knowledge in the art-historical branch, who would be responsible for the whole auctioneering programme. Where publications are concerned, he should also be responsible for the putting together of the ambitious auction catalogue. Staff already skilled in this type of work are available to help. This is a semi-independent post for the right person in a highly recommended house with excellent connections both at home and abroad.

Please write with details of past experience and curriculum vitae to Box 2308 F, The Times.

The Hongkong Bank Group

GRADUATE EXECUTIVE TRAINEES

The Hongkong Bank Group, with over 400 branches in 40 countries, is expanding rapidly and offers outstanding career prospects in international banking to young unmarried Graduates.

The Group wishes to recruit a limited number of Graduates as trainees for the International Executive staff. Interviews will take place in February and March 1981 and successful candidates will commence training in October 1981. After an initial training period they can expect to be posted either to Hong Kong or the Middle East. As executives on the international staff they can look forward to service in many parts of the world, often in challenging conditions.

Applicants will need to be able to accept responsibility at an early stage in their careers and personal qualities must include enthusiasm for working with people of various nationalities. Rewards will be commensurate with responsibility and conditions of service are excellent.

If you are graduating this year with an expectation of a good degree or are a young Graduate with some banking experience and feel that you would be interested in joining a progressive banking organisation then you should write to the following address giving full details of your background and educational qualifications:

The Manager Executive Recruitment & Training (London),
The Hongkong Bank Group,
P.O. Box 199, 99 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2LA

THE FOOD AND DRINK INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

wishes to appoint an

ECONOMIST

with effect from 1st April 1981

The Council has been established since 1973 to speak with one voice on matters of common interest to Ministers, Government Department and European Community organisations in the name of a majority of the leading trade associations in the food and drink industries.

There is a vacancy for a graduate economist with industrial experience who, under the general direction of the Assistant Secretary-General, will provide the Secretary-General, and through him the Council, with advice on economic and statistical matters affecting the food and drink industries. An important part of this advice will be in relation to the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Community; familiarity with the essential features of the C.A.P. will be a necessary qualification, and a knowledge of French will be useful.

The person appointed will act as Secretary to the Important Resources Committee of the Council, which is responsible for relations at policy level with the National Farmers' Union; and will also be concerned with such issues as competition policy, fair trading matters, the farm price review, and profitability levels.

Preferred age: 30 to 35

Salary: about £10,000 p.a.

Offices in Westminster, good conditions of service, contributory pension scheme, small enthusiastic team.

Write with full details of career and qualifications to the Secretary-General, Food and Drink Industries Council, 25 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 0EX.

Group Secretary

Trade Association

Central London £8-9,000

A large and established Trade Association seeks to fill the integral and demanding position of Secretary of one of its three specialist groups. The post, located in their Central London offices, requires an excellent Administrator with experience of committee work and writing reports and newsletters. Your involvement will also include organising the group's AGM, vetting applications for membership and generally assisting group members with all their enquiries. The Secretary is the internal and external ambassador of the group's interests. Good presence and clear presentation both written and verbal are essential together with the ability to get on with people.

Specialist knowledge is not important and qualifications are not essential. The role will be more interested in your personal qualities and your energy and enthusiasm to make a continuously significant contribution as part of a dedicated team in a convivial working environment.

The salary of £8-9,000 is coupled with excellent benefits and the post will probably be most attractive to someone of at least 35 years, who is capable of furthering the interests of an industry with a genuinely bright future.

To apply please contact Halina Carter on 01-235 7030 ext 237, PER, 45 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7BS. Applications are invited from both men and women.

PER

Professional & Executive Recruitment

PARK LANE HOSPITAL

CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRIST

Applications are invited for the post of Consultant Psychiatrist (2 posts) at Park Lane Special Hospital (whole-time or maximum part-time). Park Lane is a new Special Hospital which opened its first 100 beds in September 1980 and will open a further 310 beds to a total of 410 in two further phases to be completed in mid-1984.

Each appointee will be responsible for a firm within this new developing hospital. There will be opportunities to develop special interests including, for example, electroencephalography, automated information storage and retrieval, psychotherapy and behaviour therapy. A formal link with the Liverpool University Department of Psychiatry is being arranged and it will be possible for suitable candidates to develop links with the local NHS psychiatric services and with the regional forensic services. The posts are eligible for the Special Hospitals' "lead" of £926 per annum. NHS Conditions of Service, and superannuation apply.

The persons appointed should reside within reasonable distance of the hospital. Single or family accommodation may be available to rent if required.

Further details may be obtained from Doctor M. J. MacCulloch, MD, FRCPsych, Medical Director.

Applications forms can be obtained from the Secretary of the Advisory Appointments Committee, Park Lane Hospital, School Lane, Maghull, Liverpool L31 1HW. (Telephone no: 051-531 0022, extension 254). Applications to be returned by 31 January, 1981.

A CAREER WITH THE OBSERVER

We are looking for exceptional people to join our Classified Field Sales Force. Our reputation on Fleet Street is as an aggressive and highly trained team of young ambitious professionals. If you would like to join us you must be prepared to meet our high standards because selling newspaper space demands an unusual combination of talents. You will need determination, energy, charm and the capacity to work consistently hard under pressure. You will need a high degree of courage too since your role will involve direct contact with the senior executives of large companies and advertising agencies. You are likely to be youngish, and perhaps with some sales experience, though not necessarily in newspapers. In return for your qualities we will give you sales training second to none and a salary commensurate with the demands of the job. If you are confident and would like to join our highly competitive world, write or telephone for an application form to:

John Wells,
Classified Field Sales Manager,
The Observer Ltd., 8 St. Andrew's Hill,
London EC4Y 5JA.
Tel: 01-236 9202, Ext. 2217.

THE OBSERVER

The Board of Governors of the Royal Marsden Hospital

Committee Clerk

Applications are invited for the post of Committee Clerk to serve the statutory Committees of the hospital, the Medical Committee and its Divisions and other meetings as required. Applicants must be experienced in committee work and have the ability to prepare agenda papers, take minutes and draft the proceedings of meetings. The duties of this full time post are usually contained within normal office hours but occasional evening work will be necessary. The hours of the post are therefore negotiable according to the needs of the hospital.

Salary relevant to experience and hours worked. Applications to the House Governor, Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3, from whom further information is available. Telephone 01-352 8171, Ext. 205.

TOP FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

with wide international horizons required by the largest daily newspaper in South Africa to join a team covering the fast growing economy of South Africa. Excellent prospects for candidate capable of writing on all aspects of the financial scene, in the business capital of Johannesburg.

Attractive work conditions, tax levels, medical aid scheme, pension fund.

Apply in first instance to:

The Managing Editor,
Argus South African Newspapers Ltd.,
85 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1ED
Telephone: 01-353 3765

INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTELS

require

SALES MANAGER

for their hotel in Moscow, St Petersburg and Omsk. Considerable hotel sales experience with a proven track record and a proven ability to sell. Position is a full time post with a competitive salary, full maintenance and pension.

Interviews will take place in London, January 27/28. Applications with full details of career to date should be addressed, in the first instance, to:

Mr. David Ballard, Vice-President Europe, Inter-Continental Hotels, 13-14 Hanover St., London, W.1.

THE HISTORIC HOUSES ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Applicants for this challenging post should be enthusiastic, energetic, and totally committed. Experience in administration, plus willingness to work long hours essential. Age 35-55. Remuneration negotiable.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

St Albans

If you are 25-50, personable, well educated, self motivated and have experience in recruitment, we are interested in you. We are looking for a full time, permanent, enthusiastic person to join our team. The post is a full time, permanent, enthusiastic person to join our team. The post is a full time, permanent, enthusiastic person to join our team.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

SALES EXECUTIVE

£15,000 +

Commissions and fringe benefits

Must speak fluent French, German and English. Rapidly expanding American company requires dynamic sales person. Tremendous opportunity for advancement and interesting travel to the Continent and U.S.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Write, telephone or telex to G. Scates, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3 3ZJ 4892, Telex 916447.

Marketing Executive

An exciting opportunity to join an International Publications Company in West London. Must have previous sales experience in publicity or similar. Degree desirable. Knowledge of foreign languages a plus. A rewarding and challenging career for the successful applicant. Age mid 20s. Attractive salary and benefits.

Write in confidence with full c.v. to Antonio Fernandez Tek International, 11 Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush, London W12 8LH.

2 BUYERS/PURCHASING OFFICERS

Aged 20-35 required by city based import/export shipping company. For the first position should have practical experience in industrial knitting, weaving textile machinery and yarns.

For the second position you should have experience in purchasing bulk commodities.

Salary will be commensurate with age and experience.

Applications with full c.v. to The Managing Director, N.B.R. (London) Ltd, 28-30 Rivington St, London, EC2 3DU. Telephone 01-739 4807.

Financial Manager M/F

Wanted for large Architectural Practice. Applicants must have related qualifications and experience.

The position offers a high degree of responsibility and a salary of £12,000 p.a. Please reply to Box 2446 F, The Times

SALES PERSONNEL

Seeking new complete and unique Conference/Training system requires nationwide self-motivated and professional

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V.C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

TWO YEARS AGO I WAS BROKE

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or 01-424 0173.

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and have a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 20-40. Ring now: Tony Billings 01-424 4822 or

